

TODAY
10P

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TODAY
10P

British sportsmen demonstrate their talent for coming second

By MICHAEL CALVIN AND MATTHEW BEARD

BRITISH sportsmen yet again demonstrated the art of coming second yesterday as Damon Hill limped across the line with engine trouble after leading the Hungarian Grand Prix until the last lap, the men's 4x400 team were pipped at the line to take silver in Athens — and England's cricketers crumbled to defeat in the Ashes series.

Damon Hill was overtaken by Jacques Villeneuve after being stuck in third gear and plagued by a faulty throttle system that permitted only intermittent power to a car that had almost won after been written off as an embarrassingly frail makeweight. The only consolation was that defeat, by nine seconds, answered the whispered slurs that Hill was content to rest on his championship laurels.

Villeneuve admitted: "Damon just disappeared. He was worth a win today." Arrows team owner Tom Walkinshaw, who controversially questioned Hill's commitment before last month's British Grand Prix, added: "Damon just drove away from the field. He really deserved this race." Even a rival team owner like former world champion Alain Prost was moved to announce: "I feel really sorry for him. He really deserved to win."

It would have been the first win for the Arrows team, which is in its twentieth season in Formula One. Hill had only a solitary championship point before yesterday. The British athletics team in Athens clocked up its fifth silver (along with one bronze) in the world athletics championships after an heroic display in the 4x400 relay, ending 0.18sec behind America after threatening an unexpected victory when Jamie Baulch took the lead on the third leg.

England's cricketers — set 451 to win the fifth Test, crumbled to 186 all-out, 264 behind Australia with a day to spare. The Australians lead the series 3-1 lead with one match remaining.

Glenn McGrath took the winning wicket when he induced an edge from Devon Malcolm with Mark Waugh taking an easy catch at second slip, sparking scenes of jubilation amongst the Australian players. Only Graham Thorpe offered any resistance, hitting an unbeaten 82 as his team-mates fell in regular succession at the other end.

Then England captain Michael Atherton appealed to the Test selectors to keep the present team for the winter series in the West Indies.

Sport, pages 24, 25, 31

Muddle over U-turn on the gap trap

By NICHOLAS WOOD, DAVID CHARTER AND DOMINIC KENNEDY

THE future of thousands of university applicants was thrown into confusion last night after a government U-turn over course fees for "gap year" students.

Ministers were accused of creating policy on the hoof by offering to exempt from tuition fees those who have already arranged to work for charity as part of their year off before taking up university places next year — when the charges are to be imposed.

Nearly 20,000 have applied for a gap year, but only 2,000 are expected to benefit from the concession. Ministers hoped that the plan would prevent students changing their minds about taking a year off and choosing instead to join the scramble for the last free higher education places before the introduction of course fees and the scrapping of grants next year.

But critics said the proposals, which will not be detailed until after the A-level results are released on Thursday, could create extra muddle. (e Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (Ucas) said that the announcement would make the situation pre-fraught on Thursday.

Senior Whitehall sources emphasised yesterday that the reprieve was a one-off. It was clear that Mr Blunkett had been forced into a hasty revision of his original proposal by the outcry over the plight of gap year students. As late as last Friday evening, a spokesman for Baroness Blackstone, the Higher Education Minister, said that she had no intention of waiving anybody's university fees, but by Saturday night, the U-turn had been agreed.

Sources said ministers were still putting "flesh on the bones" of an announcement expected next Friday. Officials have yet to decide whether the exemption will apply solely to the tuition fees of £1,000 a year or whether it will also extend to maintenance grants worth up to £2,150, which are to be replaced with loans from 1998.

One Whitehall aide said: "David Blunkett is very clear that people planning to help the community and the disadvantaged should not be unfairly penalised for having made these plans and for us turning around and saying, 'Thank you very much for doing community work — and now you can pay these fees. It's a one-off and not for those who have decided to go off back-

Letters, page 19

Factor 15 sun rub for scorched pets

By ALAN HAMILTON

WHEN global warming transforms Sussex into an olive-groved Tuscany, and the windy Shetlands into the balmy Isle of Wight, the first concern of the British will be for their animals.

Early signs emerged during the weekend's dress rehearsal for a Mediterranean England when temperatures exceeded 86°F (30°C) in many parts of the country. Pershore recorded 90°F (32.2°C), Birmingham 88.7°F (31.5°C) and Heathrow came close behind at 88.5 (31.4°C) in mid-afternoon. Humidity across much of England was between 30 and 50 per cent, causing widespread fatigue and perspiration. The highest humidity, 97 per cent, was recorded in Orkney, but it came in the form of murky low cloud and mist without the accompanying benefit of heat. In these sizzling conditions,

a respected veterinary body advised the nation to smear sunblock on the snouts and ears of its fair-skinned cats and dogs as a precaution.

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TRAVEL AGENT
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Diana, Princess of Wales, comforts Elvira Tadic, 57, at the graveside of her son

Princess's embrace breaks down the language barrier

FROM DAMIAN WHITWORTH IN SARAJEVO

AS GRAINY photographs of her embrace with a playboy might now include one Dodi Al Fayed, she was less bright.

In what was said to be an unscheduled stop yesterday morning, the Princess walked alone in the Lav Cemetery near Sarajevo where many thousands of those killed in the civil war are buried in hastily dug graves.

As the Princess wandered in the shadow of the Olympic stadium, she came across Elvira Tadic, 57, a Muslim woman at the graveside of her son Dragan who died three years ago. Unable to speak each other's language, they hugged for several minutes until an interpreter arrived.

Later she walked through the rubble at Dobrinje where she was warned to stick to the road for fear of the lethal mines she had heard so much about. And then she was taken into the hills above Sarajevo and the desperately impoverished hamlet of Bujakove Potok. The Princess met Mirzeta Gahic, 15, and was said afterwards to have been moved to tears by the girl's story of losing a leg when she trod on a landmine on her way to market.

While she was generally less lively yesterday, this marked no change in her relationship with the press on the three-day trip. She posed for numerous photographs but uttered not a word to reporters.

But as the Princess waved goodbye to Bosnia, she could reflect that the photographs in the newspapers on her lap may have overshadowed her visit, but they had by no means made it worthless. The muted victims she had talked to have been unanimous in thanking her for highlighting their plight.

New York gasps at Wallis and Edward show

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

HUNDREDS of goggle-eyed tourists jostled with inquisitive New Yorkers outside the shop windows of Bergdorf Goodman yesterday as the Fifth Avenue store put on a jaunty display of Windsor memorabilia that included some of the Duchess's dresses, the Duke's reading glasses and even a slice of their wedding cake.

The items all come from the collection of their personal effects that will be auctioned off here next month at Sotheby's. The display, which can only be described as eclectic, occupied six whole windows of the swanky store, arguably New York's leading retailers of women's high fashion.

The Duchess's bon mots festooned each window, serving as an understated backdrop to some rather gaudy frocks and bangles. Particularly fine was this example: "If you accept a dinner invitation, you have a moral duty to be charming." Less fine, however, was her collection of lurid porcelain pugs, a breed of dog to which she was deeply devoted. Of equally dubious

taste were her multicoloured porcelain monkeys. Most popular with the gawkers were her dresses, some of which might be described as "proto-Versace" in their disdain for colour coordination. A beige crepe de chine ankle-length gown, held up by a psychedelic belt studded with red, green, yellow and purple beads, drew gasps of approval from a group of Puerto Rican matrons.

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Minister rules out new laws on privacy

By STEPHEN FARRELL

NEW privacy laws were ruled out yesterday, amid controversy over the publication of pictures of Diana, Princess of Wales, embracing Dodi Fayed, son of the Harrods owner, on a private holiday.

The grainy photographs are likely to earn the Monaco-based photographer Mario Brena £3 million worldwide. After they appeared in the *Sunday Mirror* yesterday, Peter Mandelson, Minister Without Portfolio, said "I think they are intrusive. I think they are unwelcome."

However, he told BBC's *Breakfast With Frost* programme that newspapers often exposed wrongdoing and corruption, and that regulation was best left to the Press Complaints Commission.

"The problem of having an all-encompassing privacy law being introduced by Parliament is the protection it gives to those who don't merit protection."

"I would hate to see the day when the British press are prevented from exposing that wrongdoing and dealing with corruption among certain individuals. Often it's only the press who can do that job."

The photographs, taken with a long lens, show the Princess in a pink swimsuit with coral motifs hugging Mr Fayed, 41, a divorced Hollywood producer, aboard his father's £15 million yacht *Jonikal* off Sardinia on Mon-

day last week. They are the first evidence of a romantic relationship since her divorce.

The *Sunday Mirror* paid an estimated £250,000 for ten pages of pictures. One shows the couple apparently kissing, and in others they are hugging, swimming and sunbathing together. The *Sunday Mirror* raised its price 5p and printed 2.8 million copies, 20 per cent more than usual.

Finding itself thwarted, the *News of the World* printed its own reconstruction of how the kiss would have looked. The *Sun* and the *Daily Mail* will today publish more pictures after paying about £100,000 each for second British rights.

Brena, 40, is based in Monaco and combines paparazzi duties with fashion collection work. His coup is expected to catapult him into the front rank of European celebrity photographers such as Daniel Angeli, credited with photographing John Bryan with the Duchess of York in 1992.

Brena stumbled on the Princess by accident on Monday after spotting Mohammed Al Fayed's yacht while working on other stories. He is expected to make six-figure sums from his key markets: Britain, the US and Australia, with France, Spain, Italy and Germany each providing up to £100,000 more.

Alan Hamilton, page 15

The Wallis and Edward show

Continued from page 1
dered on it. There were also first editions of books by both of them: *The Heart has its Reasons*, the Duchess's memoirs, sat next to *A King's Story*, the Duke's memoirs. Aptly, the window here carried this little exchange as commentary: "You've thrown away three kings," gasped her partner at gin-rummy. "Yes, but I kept the best one, didn't I?"

The most bizarre exhibit of all, and perhaps also the most endearing, was a little box, wrapped in ageing silk and tied with a little green bow. On the silk, written in ink in the Duchess's hand, is the following: "A piece of our wedding cake. 3-11-37." The box is initialed by both of them.

The Duke's and Duchess's goods and chattels are being sold by Mohamed Al Fayed, chairman of Harrods and owner of the Ritz Hotel in Paris. Diplomatically, he chose not to hold the sale in London where it has raised eyebrows, not least because he denied that he would sell the items.

The contents of the house in the Bois de Boulogne were bought by Mr Al Fayed for a reputed £3.7 million after the Duchess left her estate to the Louis Pasteur Institute.

The sale of the collection, which chronicles the love of Edward VIII for the American divorcee Wallis Simpson, is being heralded as the greatest royal sale since Charles II's treasures were disposed of more than 300 years ago. Exhibitions of some of the 3,200 lots, expected to net more than £3 million during the eight-day auction, are being held in Chicago, São Paulo in Brazil, Buenos Aires.



The desk at which Edward VIII signed his abdication goes on display

Police demand inquiry by Irvine into judge's remarks

By STEWART TENDLER

SENIOR detectives have complained to the Lord Chancellor's Department over a judge who threatened to jail an entire squad of 20 officers after vital evidence went missing.

A police complaint over the remarks made by Judge Fergus Mitchell at Snaresbrook Crown Court has also been passed to Mr Justice Wright, the head of the south-east circuit. Colin Port, head of Serco, the Southeast Regional Crime Squad, backed by chief constables, wants Judge Mitchell rebuked for remarks which police think were ex-

sive and unfair. Police were incensed by the judge's comments in June when he was trying five men accused of conspiracy to supply cannabis.

The case had to be abandoned after a police log of surveillance operations disappeared immediately after the defence requested its presentation for forensic examination. The logs had been in court briefly during an earlier hearing, and the judge had allowed them to be taken back to Hainault police station in east London where the squad was based.

The judge told the court:

"What really worries me is the destruction of exhibits I ordered to come to court by one of a fairly limited number of officers. They're in contempt in my view. I suppose I could send them all to prison for contempt from the superintendent down."

He was told that the Police Complaints Authority had begun an inquiry. Told there were no police officers in court the judge asked: "Didn't they have the nerve?"

Immediately after the case Mr Port ordered a transcript of the judge's remarks. Officers in the regional crime squad say that the judge was

unfair because the log may have gone missing when removals were taking place.

Mr Port, with the support of the committee of chief constables who oversee his squad, wrote to the Lord Chancellor to complain. The department said that judges are independent and cannot be disciplined. Now Serco has written again to Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor, pointing out cases where judges have been seen by the Lord Chancellor.

The investigation supervised by the PCA is still under way. No officers have been suspended.

MPs aim to be beside the sea

By VALERIE ELLIOTT, WHITEHALL EDITOR

LABOUR MPs are to set up their own backbench beach club to promote British seaside resorts. Its founder, Gordon Marsden, new Labour MP for Blackpool South, wants the traditional bucket-and-spade holiday back in vogue.

He has the full backing of Chris Smith, National Heritage Secretary. Mr Marsden is seeking to insure the economic regeneration of seaside towns, and among his plans are a new grading system for hotels, guest houses and bed and breakfast places. Lottery money has already been allo-

cated to restore some piers around the country and other projects are planned.

Mr Marsden has written to 40 Labour MPs with coastal and seaside constituencies to arrange a meeting before the summer recess. Some awaydays are planned during the summer to see how various resorts are coping.

He said: "I think we need to give back a sense of pride to seaside towns."

"We must get away from the idea of a British holiday being yobs on the rampage. There are lots of positive things going on."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Police given power to name paedophiles

New guidelines allowing public identification of paedophiles "in exceptional circumstances" were welcomed by police and the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. The code of practice, to be sent to police forces today, will allow officers to tell schools and members of the public about convicted child sex offenders living in their area. However, Alan Michael, Home Office Minister, will make clear that names and addresses should be published only if a person is believed to pose a risk, not as a matter of course. Details will be held on a central register from next month.

Hague press secretary

William Hague is close to naming a former ministerial adviser as his press secretary. Gregor Mackay impressed senior Tories when he was recruited in a temporary capacity for the election campaign. Mr Mackay, who is in his late 20s and works for a political lobbying company, was previously a special adviser to Ian Lang while he was a Cabinet minister. An announcement is expected next month when the Tory leader returns from holiday in America.

MP urges drugs debate

A Labour MP has urged the Government to consider legalising drugs in the wake of the murder of five-year-old Dillon Hall, Brian Iddon, member for Bolton South East, where Dillon died in what is believed to be a drugs-related shooting last week, called for a Royal Commission to look at decriminalisation as a way of cutting drug-related offences. "As long as there is money in the sale of drugs... we will have tragedies like the one in Bolton," he said.

Toy dealer jailed

Jeffrey Levitt, the dealer in antique toys, is back in prison, for handling toys stolen in a burglary. In 1991 Levitt, 40, of Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, carried out a £12 million fraud on the Department of Trade and Industry, which then awarded him a Queen's Award for exports of antique toys. Levitt was jailed for 12 months at Oxford Crown Court on Friday after admitting handling proceeds of a burglary in a north Oxfordshire village on May 31 last year.

Football fans arrested

Rival football fans clashed outside Leicester City's ground on Saturday, smashing pub windows and hurling street signs. Twenty-one Aston Villa supporters and three Leicester fans were arrested during the battle after the match at the Filbert Street ground. Trouble started at a pub shortly after the game, which Leicester won. Street signs were ripped from lamp-posts. Three people inside the pub were treated for cuts.

Two hurt in boat blast

A nine-year-old girl and her father were injured after their yacht exploded while refuelling at a marina in Chichester, West Sussex. David Stowell, 41, and his daughter Charlotte, from Southwater, West Sussex, were last night being treated for burns in hospital in Chichester. Eye-witnesses reported a series of explosions aboard the boat which was severely damaged in the blaze. Three other members of the family who were on board escaped unhurt.

Autism role for Asher

The actress Jane Asher, right, has been made president of the National Autistic Society after being involved in its work for more than ten years. Ms Asher said yesterday: "I am proud to be part of the excellent work that the society is doing. Autism is a complex condition and I am happy to do what I can to help highlight the problems that people with autism and their families face."



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Dobson admits hospital waiting lists will grow

By POLLY NEWTON, POLITICAL REPORTER

FRANK Dobson, the Health Secretary, admitted yesterday that hospital waiting lists would go on rising for some time in spite of the Government's promise to provide more money for the NHS.

He insisted that Labour had honoured its pre-election commitment to make health a priority, and said the Government had already earmarked extra funds for breast cancer treatment and paediatric intensive care units.

"There is no question of betraying anybody," Mr Dobson said. Waiting lists were at record levels and would go on rising. "It will be some time before we can get them down, but we are concentrating our efforts on those conditions which can show the biggest and most dangerous deteriorations - like cancer."

The Department of Health has confirmed that 44 of the 100 health authorities in Eng-

land have increased their longest time a patient can wait for 1997-98.

North Staffordshire has increased the maximum guaranteed waiting time from nine to 15 months; the maximum wait has gone up from 12 to 18 months in the Wirral; and Portsmouth and East Hampshire has put up its maximum to 12 months from six.

Four London health authorities - Enfield and Haringey, Barnet, South Essex and Merton, Sutton and Wandsworth - say that maximum waits for operations are being increased from one year to 18 months.

Mr Dobson denied a claim by the Liberal Democrats that the changes had been introduced without publicity in an attempt to hide the problem. "I have been making the position clear and taking responsibility for it for two months now," he said.

Cook's wife blames split on Tory cuts

THE estranged wife of the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, has claimed that Conservative cuts to the health service were partly to blame for their break-up.

Margaret Cook, a consultant haematologist at St John's Hospital in her husband's constituency of Livingston in Lothian, said she should "probably" have spent more time in London with Mr Cook.

"In practice, however, this has hardly been possible over the past five years because of the demands of my profession," she said. "The vicious financial stringencies imposed on the health service by the last Government have prevented rational approaches to staffing and many consultants, myself included, have carried excessive workloads with little hope of alleviation."

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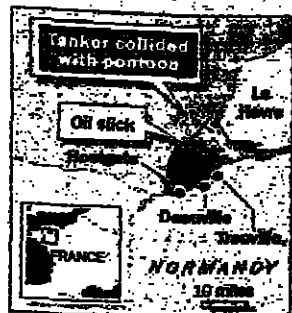
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Sweltering Brits cast eyes at Arctic



Oil slick hits coast of France

MANY of Normandy's beaches were closed to bathers this weekend after a spill from an oil tanker. Yesterday, the ban was lifted between the towns of Honfleur and Honfleur.

The spill happened when the tanker *Katja*, flying the Bahamian flag, collided with a pontoon off the port of Le Havre on Thursday. The slick spread southwest, affecting more than 40 kilometres of coastline.

On Saturday, more than 300 firemen, servicemen and volunteers worked to clean up the beaches. More than a hundred birds, their feathers coated in the thick black oil, were rescued, but their chances for survival were slim.

The ban on swimming remained in force round the port of Le Havre, and the town of Sainte-Adresse.



Balmy. Bournemouth had a warm, open sea and a few square feet of sand for those who were tempted. Temperatures in the south were in the mid-60s.

Continued from page 1
against skin cancer. Then, curators of a rare breeds farm near Carlisle were out, at great risk to themselves, plastering factor 15 on their Vietnamese pot-bellied pigs to prevent them turning to bacon on the hoof. Other animals were in equal danger. Staff at Butterfly World at Stockton on Tees, which exhibits butterflies, iguanas and other creatures of the Amazon jungle, had to pump cool air into the hothouse to protect their charges from the effects of extreme heat.

But the heat was not universally feted. The Norwegian airline Braathens reported an unprecedented interest from the sweltering English in trips to the Arctic Circle.

Since the heatwave began, tourists have been heading in unusually large numbers for the north Norwegian town of Tromsø, which boasts a fine modern cathedral, the most northerly in the world, and an interesting collection of fish processing plants. Some are heading even further, to the distant ice-capped archipelago of Svalbard deep in the Arctic.

Perhaps they should postpone a decision. Forecasters say that a band of thunderstorms will migrate from the southwest all the way to Scotland during today and tomorrow. Any moment now there will be a solemn warning not to stand under trees, especially with an unprotected dog.

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Forecast, page 22

Uncle arrested after teenager dies on jetski

Girl hit by speedboat propeller, reports Lin Jenkins

A FAMILY celebrating a child's birthday watched in horror as her 17-year-old sister was killed when a jetski crashed into a boat on a leisure lake.

Faye Grundy, who was riding pillion on a jetski driven by her uncle, was catapulted into the propeller of the boat, towing a water skier. She suffered severe injuries to her stomach and a leg, and died on the way to hospital.

Her uncle, Tony Gee, 36, could face prosecution over her death. Police are investigating whether reckless driving or "floating" of safety procedures contributed to the accident. Mr. Gee had taken Faye for the ride during a family day out to the 40-acre Queenford Lake, near Abingdon, Oxfordshire.

Miss Grundy's stepfather, Anthony Jones, 45, said his wife Mandy, 38, had taken her daughter Faye and Harriet, 12, to celebrate their sister Gemma's 15th birthday. Mr. Gee had joined the group with other friends and their children.

Mr. Jones said Miss Grundy had been a reluctant addition to the party. "Faye didn't want to go at first but her mum asked her and she came



Faye Grundy: riding pillion on jetski

along," he said. "When she was there she had a really good time playing with my friend's two-year-old son and waiting for a go on the jetski."

"We went on three jetskis — myself, a friend, Faye and her uncle. The staff at the centre were brilliant. One went through everything with us and then he went around the lake a couple of times. We have no idea how the accident happened. Faye had never been on a jetski before."

Mrs. Jones watched helplessly from the bank as her

daughter became entangled in the propeller of a boat towing a water skier.

Day-trippers watched in disbelief as the jetski left the designated area and went into the lane reserved for water skiing.

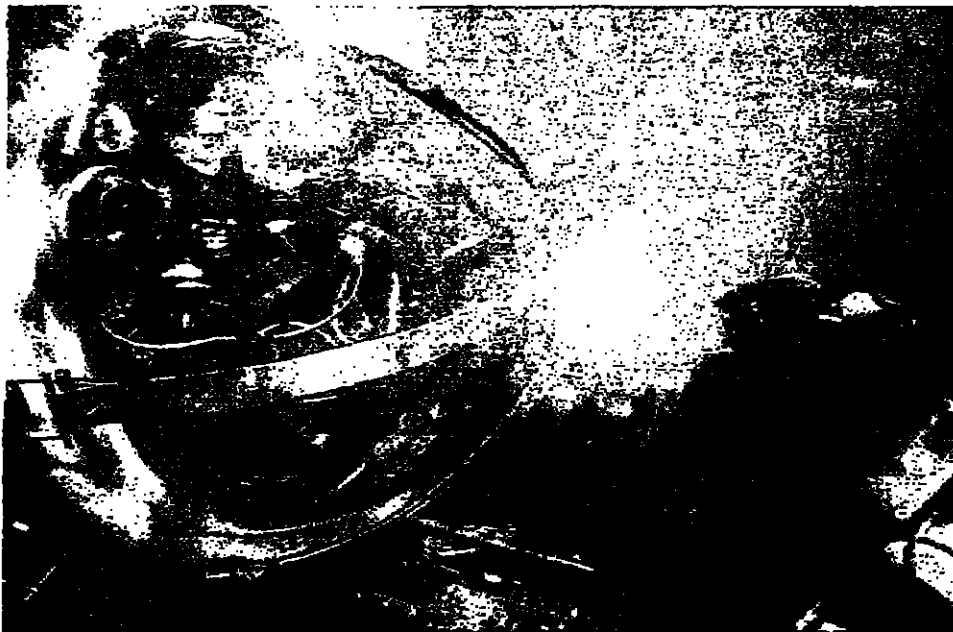
Miss Grundy, of Benson, Oxfordshire, was due to begin a college course in beauty therapy next term. Friends said yesterday she was known as "smiley Faye" because of her good nature and cheerful demeanour.

One witness said: "Her mother was absolutely distraught. A rescue boat was out to them very quickly but there was nothing anyone could do to help the poor girl. She didn't stand a chance."

Mr. Gee, of Chalgrove, Oxfordshire, suffered minor head injuries and was released after treatment. He was later arrested by police, interviewed and released on police bail pending further inquiries. Tests showed he was not over the drink-drive limit.

Yesterday Lake Estate Water Sports closed the lake as a mark of respect to the family of the dead teenager. An investigation has been launched by the Health and Safety Executive.

Nothing less than 11,137 metres
of water will satisfy
Dr Earle's thirst for knowledge.



Moving along a steep subsea wall in a thunderstorm, or being circled hundreds of miles from shore by fifty inquisitive sharks, Dr Sylvia Earle sometimes asks herself: "What on earth am I doing here?" Such moments rapidly pass.

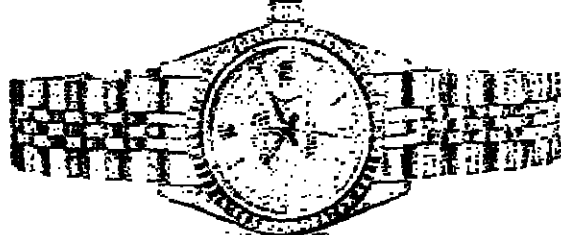
For as a leading marine biologist, nothing could be more important to her than exploring oceans.

Her quest has led her below forests of kelp and swaying prairies of weed to gaping chasms.

Yet she will not rest until she has working access to the very deepest parts.

The technology necessary to assist in such journeys will be awesome; however, some of it is already in place.

Of the Rolex Chronometer that never leaves her wrist Dr Earle merely says: "Of course, an Oyster can go deeper than many submarines." **ROLEX** of Geneva



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Best to play it cool when the heat is on

WOULD Peter Mandelson have been quite so emphatic at his press conference, or on *The World At One*, if London had not been enjoying one of its sunny, muggy weeks? Hot weather begins to affect mood, as well as appetite, libido, concentration, and ability to sleep, long before disorders such as heat stroke.

In hot weather, clothes should be loose and light, to reflect the sun, and allow air to circulate around the body, encouraging the evaporation of sweat. Sleeping is always a problem in muggy weather. Most people sleep better under a sheet than with no covering.

This is the one time of the year when even those people with incipient or actual heart or lung disease can afford to sleep with an open window. Libido is reduced by excessive heat, so a temporary migration to separate beds may not cause too great a hardship. This makes for a cooler bed and a night away from a hot, sweaty, restless partner.

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttford

When hot and sweaty, there is the temptation to quench the thirst and calm irritability by having long alcoholic drinks. A couple may be helpful, but any excessive alcoholic intake makes the situation very much worse. Three pints of soft drinks a day, whether water, tea, or diluted fruit juices, helps prevent a comparatively sedentary person from becoming dehydrated. Those who undertake violent exercise may need very much more.

Heat stroke is of sudden onset and results from failure of the sweating mechanism. Temperature rises rapidly, the skin becomes dry, hot and red, and the pulse and respiratory rate

increase alarmingly. Death may follow complete circulatory failure, or the brain or central nervous system may be permanently damaged. Treatment is by the rapid cooling of the body, usually by immersion in cold water or being wrapped in a wet sheet.

In one instance, a patient was saved by being covered in a sheet which was then drenched in a cocktail of drinks from an ice box brought for a picnic.

Heat exhaustion, from overdoing exercise or taking too little fluid, leads to profuse sweating, a slow pulse, fast respiratory rate and low blood pressure. The treatment is immediate fluid and salt replacement.



Lucille McLauchlan, left, and Deborah Parry, who expect a verdict on murder charges within a week

Murder case nurses await judges' verdict

Lawyers for Britons present evidence against demand for death penalty.

reports Michael Theodoulou

THE two British nurses accused of murdering an Australian colleague in Saudi Arabia face an agonising wait for the verdict after judges yesterday abruptly closed the case and retired to consider the evidence.

Lucille McLauchlan and Deborah Parry did not attend the 45-minute hearing at the Islamic sharia court in Al Khubar. The verdict is expected within a week, relatives said.

The women's fate would now appear to depend on whether the judges accept as evidence alleged confessions which they later retracted, insisting they had been made under threats of sexual assault by Saudi police and promises of an early release. Their lawyers have repeatedly urged the court to throw out the confessions. The prosecution

has apparently presented no other evidence.

Yesterday, lawyers for Ms McLauchlan, 31, and Ms Parry, 38, presented what they called critical new evidence to undermine the right of the victim's family to demand the death penalty if they are found guilty of killing Yvonne Gilford, 55. She was stabbed, bludgeoned with a hammer and suffocated last December at the King Fahd medical complex in Dhahran, eastern Saudi Arabia.

The lawyers produced medical documents from Australia which purportedly showed that the victim's mother, Muriel Gilford, 84, was suffering from Alzheimer's disease and was incapable of deciding the nurses' fate.

Under Saudi law, a murder victim's immediate family can call for execution, but only if



Gilford: found stabbed in medical complex

the decision is unanimous. Frank Gilford, the victim's brother and only other immediate relative, has persistently demanded the death penalty, which in Saudi Arabia means public beheading by the sword.

However, the likelihood of the death penalty being imposed was lessened on Friday when a leading member of the Saudi Royal Family declared that the two women did not

deserve to be executed. "That's a pretty cast-iron assurance, I'd say," Michael Dark, one of the nurses' lawyers in Riyadh, said.

Prince Talal bin Abdul Aziz, a brother of King Fahd, said in an interview with the *Washington Times*: "I am telling you that in this case there will be no beheadings."

Ms Parry, of Alton, Hampshire, has been so haunted by fears that she might be beheaded in public that she has had regular psychiatric treatment.

But the Saudi authorities had made it clear since the trial opened in May that they would do their utmost to rule out the possibility of two Western women being executed.

Before any evidence was heard, the judges made an appeal to Mr Gilford to consider accepting a financial settlement, commonly known as "blood money", in the event of a guilty verdict. When he persisted in demanding the death penalty, the court then questioned his legal status as his sister's heir.

Chile puts Britain's star role on hold

By NIGEL HAWKES

BRITAIN'S biggest astronomy project could be delayed by a dispute over funding with Chile, which has failed to pay its share of the costs.

The Gemini project plans to build two big telescopes, one in Chile and one in Hawaii, to provide high-quality coverage of the entire sky. Britain is committed to paying a quarter of the £115 million cost.

Officials of the US-led consortium which is building the telescopes have now given the Chileans until September 1 to settle a three-year legal dispute which has blocked payment of Chile's 5 per cent share. If Chile fails to meet the deadline, Gemini will do a deal with Australia, which is eager to step into the breach.

Matt Mountain, project director for Gemini, which is based in Tucson, Arizona, told *Science* magazine: "The project is running out of cash, and if nothing happens soon we will have to delay work on the southern telescope."

A network of telescopes in Chile, South Africa and Australia has detected what is believed to be a planet circling a star thousands of light years from Earth. The star has a mass similar to that of the Sun, while the planet is the size of Jupiter. More data is needed to confirm the existence of the new planet.

Handgun amnesty 'will end in chaos'

By PETER FOSTER

THE handover of thousands of handguns outlawed after Dunblane is in danger of descending into administrative and financial chaos, a firearms group warned yesterday.

It claims that thousands of gun enthusiasts will overwhelm the system in a last-minute rush to hand in their guns to police.

Owners of the estimated 160,000 banned large-calibre handguns have until October 1 to give up their weapons. Police say only 30,000 pistols have been surrendered since the amnesty began on July 1.

Allie Fox, director of the Sportsman's Association which represents 43,000 shooting enthusiasts, said: "It will be chaos, tying up considerable amounts of manpower and requiring them [the police] to draft in extra staff."

Some forces, including Surrey police, have attempted to speed up gun collection by writing to licence holders. The system for surrendering guns varies widely between police forces. Some constabularies, such as Lancashire, are making individual appointments for owners while others expect gun owners to attend designated stations between fixed hours on nominated days.

The Government has estimated the bill for compensation at £169 million, but the shooting lobby puts the figure as high as £450 million.

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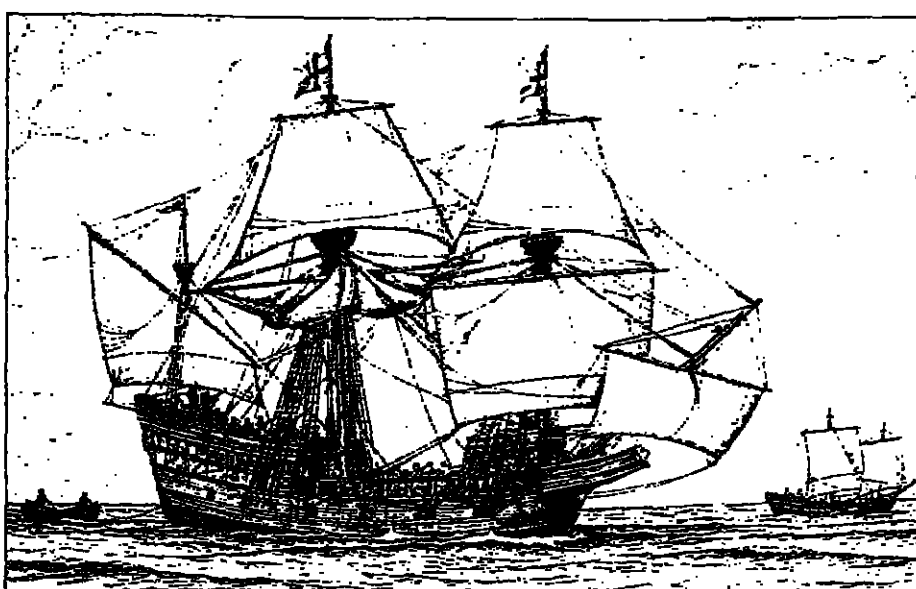
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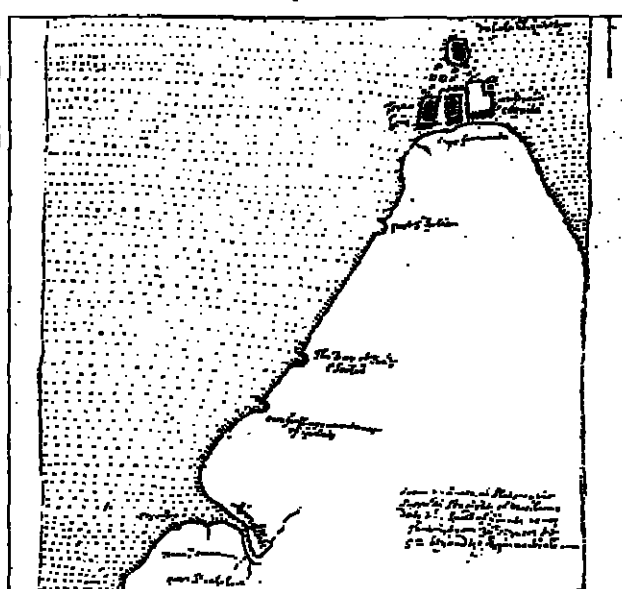
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A drawing by Captain Aker of the *Golden Hind*. The ship's chaplain, Francis Fletcher, drew this map of Cape Horn, discovered in 1578

Navigator is finally credited with discovering Cape Horn, reports **Mark Henderson**



Michael Turner, who said a map of Drake's route proved he landed at the Cape

The map illustrates the Drake Passage area, showing the route from the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean. Key locations include Argentina, Chile, the Strait of Magellan, and the Horn of Cape Horn. A scale bar indicates 10 miles. A box labeled 'Area enlarged' points to a detailed inset map of the Horn of Cape Horn, showing the 'Possible routes' (1 and 2) for the Drake Passage.

The Drake Exploration Society is raising money to fund an expedition to Horn Island to find a carving that would provide the final proof.

Captain Aker is also pressing historians to accept his evidence that Drake landed at Drakes Estero in northern California in 1579, claiming it for England as Nova Albion. He hopes to have the bay made a United States heritage landmark.

known as the Drake Passage.

Schouten's historical claim to have been the first European to reach the Cape was possible because Drake's discovery was made a state

secret by Elizabeth I, who wanted to protect knowledge of a new gateway to the Pacific. The Straits of Magel-

lan, controlled by the Spanish, were thought to be the only passage at the time and contemporary maps show a

Mr Turner said that most

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EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

Art of grabbing attention on the lunatic fringe

THE wilder side of the Edinburgh Festival is pushing back further the boundaries of taste and decency this year with necrophilia, female sumo wrestling and masochism, including a documentary of a man filmed in close-up nailing his genitalia to a board.

Calls for censorship were renewed yesterday and local protesters gathered at the weekend outside a converted church in a quiet residential area which has been chosen as the venue for a bizarre American human circus. The circus's organiser, Jim Rose, simply joined the protest. He said: "They didn't recognise me and they even gave me a placard to hold."

These items of art fighting for attention are a small part of a festival that doubles the city's population and brings £122 million into the local economy. The festival is no stranger to controversy, but previous offerings may seem tame against *Sick: The Life and Death of Bob Flanagan, Supermasochist*, which has been selected for the main film programme.

However disturbing the content — including the nailing scene — the film was acclaimed at Robert Redford's Sundance Festival and described by *Variety* magazine as brilliant. Flanagan was a performance artist who, knowing that he was dying of cystic fibrosis, allowed his final two years to be recorded by Kirby Dick, an American filmmaker.

In its defence, Lizzie Francke, director of the film

Dalya Alberge reports on the reactions to the performers who suffer for their audience

festival, said: "It's a very profound film. It deals with pain and sickness. He was born with cystic fibrosis and his parents were told he'd die at six. He lived to his forties. "How do people deal with a terminal illness? He became involved in performance art and masochism. I just think that anyone who lives with a terminal illness should be able to explore ways of coming to terms with that. I sobbed half way through. He dealt with it through his sexuality." She acknowledged that the film was "difficult to watch".

Among other offerings to be avoided by the faint-hearted are *Kissed*, the British premiere of a film about a young mortuary attendant's necrophilic lust for corpses in her care. There is *The Acrobat*, a circus featuring a topless ringmaster and a clown who loves to be spanked. There is the *Kamikaze Freak Show* of "human curiosities", including *The World's Strongest Penis*.

And there's the Jim Rose Circus Sideshow from America, whose performers have included a man dangling an iron from his pierced genitalia. Rose returns to the festival after a three-year absence with events such as a women's sumo wrestling championships: "800 lb of human flesh that will nightly collide".

Moirra Knox, the Edinburgh Tory councillor who each year reiterates calls for censorship, expressed dismay at the Bob Flanagan film — particularly as funding comes from both the Arts Council and the City. "This is a cultural festival. Are people so bored with life? When I watched *The Gondoliers* the other night, I went to bed happy. If I'd seen this, I'd have gone to bed with my stomach churning. This is public money. There should be censorship when it involves public funding. They can't be trusted."

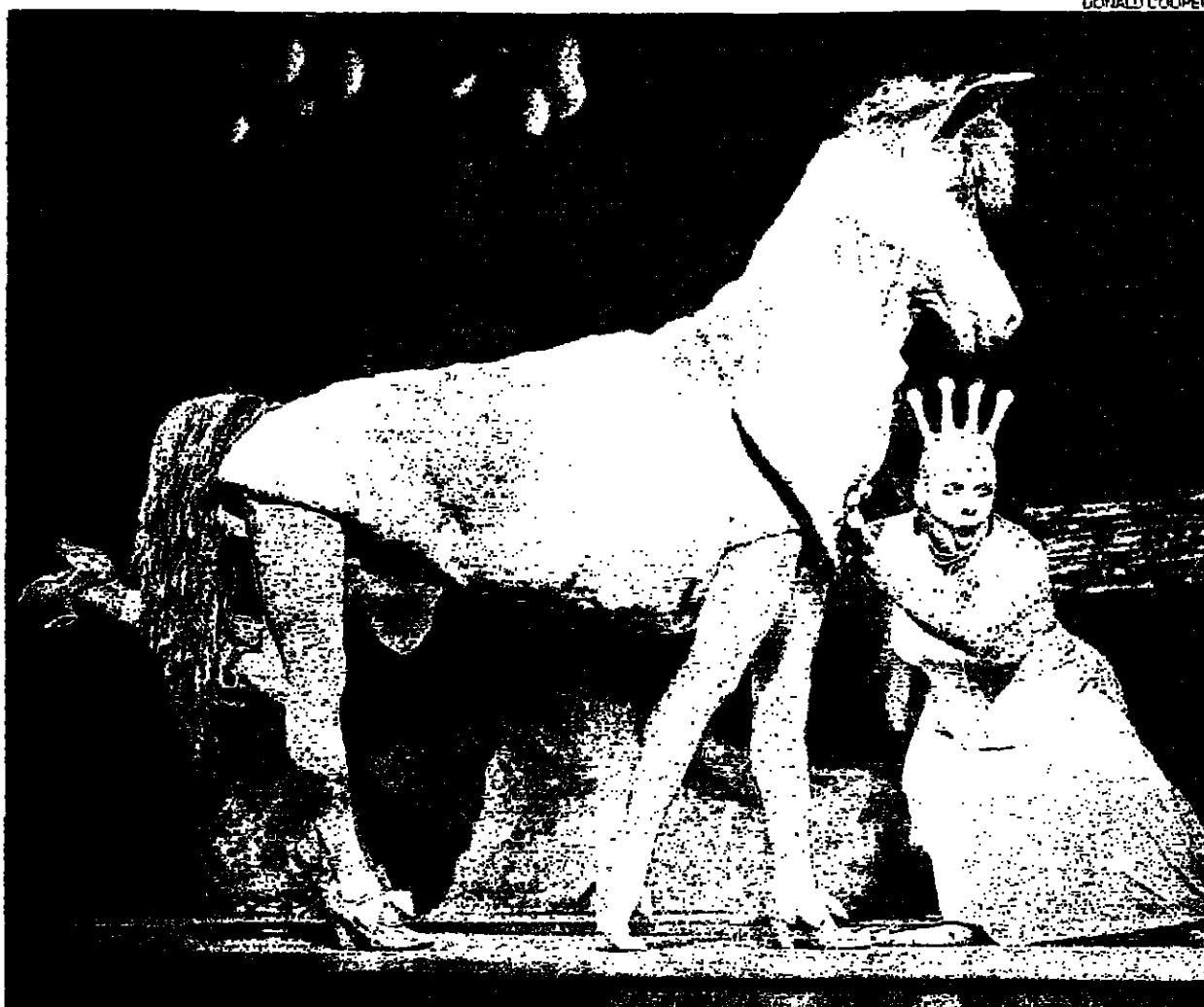
She spoke of receiving numerous letters each year from

local people complaining about the festival. One young man, she recalled, had contacted the police over Jim Rose's act involving a man dangling objects from his nose.

On the fringe, more than 600 companies are competing for audiences for 14,297 performances. At the first festival in 1947, there were just eight fringe acts.

Mr Rose said yesterday: "This time, we also have a woman who blows fire from her birth canal. The show is so damned funny that it has little to do with the reality of the shock."

Recalling a complaint from the father of an 11-year-old boy at one show, he did, however, advise parents against bringing their children.



Opera on the hoof: Jean-Paul Fouchecourt performs in drag with a dancing horse in Royal Opera's *Platée*

High pitch for opera that spoofs the opera

By DALYA ALBERGE

THE American director-choreographer Mark Morris makes his Royal Opera debut tonight at Edinburgh's Festival Theatre with his staging of Rameau's 1745 comic opera-ballet *Platée*. The sumptuous mix of song, dance and spectacle is about an outrageously vain and grotesque wood nymph performed by a high tenor in drag.

It was originally created for the court theatre at Versailles. Although the Royal Opera describes it as "one of the greatest comic creations in opera", it is rarely performed. Morris said that this production for the festival reflects a long-overdue renaissance: "Rameau is known for very big, sweeping, musically tragic works. This is a comedy in which he's sending up himself."

Platée is sung by the French high tenor Jean-Paul Fouchecourt. Costumes are by the fashion designer Isaac Mizrahi.

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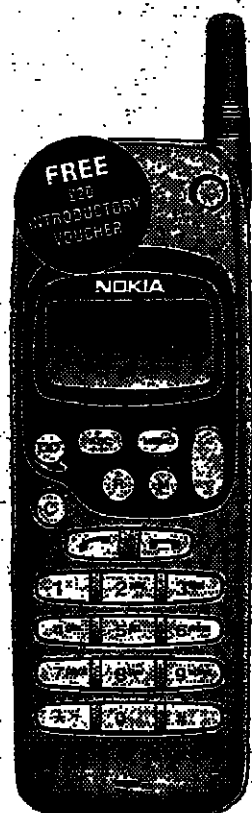
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Broker of Northern Ireland talks ponders his future role in peace

John Hume must decide whether to stand, uncontested,
for the Irish presidency. He spoke to **Martin Fletcher**

JOHN HUME leaves for a holiday in France this week during which he must weigh one of the toughest choices of his long and distinguished career.

The 60-year-old leader of the nationalist Social Democratic and Labour Party must decide whether he wants to become Ireland's next president — but in doing so to relinquish his pivotal role in the forthcoming peace negotiations that he has done more than anyone to broker. Interviewed in a hotel in his native Londonderry, Mr Hume insisted he had given no "deep thought" to succeeding Mary Robinson in November and had not discussed the possibility with party colleagues. He conspicuously failed to rule it out, however, and the pressure on him to run for the presidency is growing daily.

Mr Hume, who would be the first Irish president from the North, is receiving plenty of encouragement from Dublin where the ruling Fianna Fail and the main opposition party Fine Gael would readily make him their uncontested candidate. The Irish media

have seized on the idea, with the *Irish Times* declaring that he "has the stature and the vision to ensure that the highest office in the land does not slide backwards from the high watermark of the Robinson presidency". A poll in Dublin's *Sunday Independent* yesterday gave him double the support of that for his closest rival, the former Taoiseach Albert Reynolds. The singer Dana barely registered.

It is easy to understand why Mr Hume, the soft-spoken

Leading article..... 19

MP for Foyle and MEP, might be tempted by the viceregal luxury of Aras an Uachtaráin, the President's Dublin residence. The strain of promoting peace talks, and years of shuttling to Westminster, Strasbourg and America, have taken their toll on his health. He admits the pace "lately has started to get to me". He complains of knots in his stomach, of numbness in his hands, of exhaustion. "It's stress," he says. "Overwork."

But mention the peace pro-

cess and Mr Hume grows animated. Once pilloried for his opposition to Gerry Adams, he has finally become a hero. Sinn Féin to the negotiating table. He believes David Trimble's Ulster Unionist Party will turn up for the full-scale talks next month because public opinion demands it and because the requirement that any settlement is put to a referendum will be met. In a referendum protests the party from any charge of "selling out". Mr Hume says that with a British Prime Minister for the first time making Northern Ireland his top priority, an agreement ending 40 years of strife is certainly "achievable"; with serious dialogue "it could all happen fairly quickly".

Mr Hume has spent 30 years doggedly pursuing a resolution of this most intractable of conflicts. His life's work is tantalisingly close to fruition. But nominations for the presidency close on September 30 — just two weeks after the talks open — and becoming Ireland's head of state would mean swapping his role in those talks for a political straitjacket.

It is hard to imagine Mr Hume leaving Unionism and militant republicanism confronting each other at such a crucial juncture without his moderating presence. In the resulting Foyle by-election, moreover, the Sinn Féin chairman Mitchel McLaughlin could well win Mr Hume's Westminster seat, boosting Sinn Féin's hopes of overtaking the SDLP as nationalism's biggest party. But Mr Hume could conclude that having brokered the talks, the presidency would now be the best vehicle for advancing his vision for a 'new Ireland'.

His model is Europe's post-war development of institutions that recognise national differences but enable its peoples jointly to pursue their

common economic interests. Similar institutions could unite Ireland's two traditions in joint economic effort — "spilling our sweat not our blood" — and a stable Ireland would be ideally placed to

attract inward investment. Mr Hume has very successfully attracted foreign investment to Londonderry. Last week *The New York Times* claimed that Mr Hume had told a private dinner at Dublin's US Embas-

sy that as president he would be "a super-salesman for Ireland trying to bring investment and jobs here". He refuses to be drawn on that.

Leaving the hotel after the interview, Mr Hume spots a



John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, would be the first Irish president from the North.

Mowlam criticised over prisoners

Unionists are angry that terrorists might be freed if the truce holds, our **Chief Ireland Correspondent** reports

MO MOWLAM, the Northern Ireland Secretary, provoked Unionist anger yesterday by suggesting that republican and loyalist terrorists could be released from prison early if the paramilitary ceasefire holds.

Peter Robinson of the Democratic Unionist Party denounced what he said was yet another government concession to keep the IRA's temporary ceasefire going. "Many in the security services will be wondering why they put their lives on the line to arrest these people if the Secretary of State is going to let them out before they've completed their sentences," he said. John Taylor, of the Ulster Unionist Party, also criticised the move.

Dr Mowlam told *The Sunday Telegraph* that she was

not yet ready to discuss demands that terrorist prisoners be freed but would consider that and other confidence-building measures designed to bolster the peace process if the ceasefire held.

Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein president, recently demanded the speedy release of all "political" prisoners during his first official meeting with Dr Mowlam. Sinn Fein began a campaign on behalf of the republican prisoners last week.

Unionist and republican sources also predicted that the IRA's infamous four-strong Balcombe Street gang, which carried out about 50 attacks in

18 months in the mid-1970s, would soon be transferred to jails in the Irish Republic. A little-noticed passage of the government's July 9 letter to Sinn Féin acknowledged republican concern about the repatriation of prisoners who had served more than 20 years in English prisons and said that Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, would shortly be reviewing the cases of "four such prisoners".

Dr Mowlam will decide at the end of the month whether the IRA ceasefire is genuine and Sinn Fein should be invited to full-scale peace negotiations beginning on September

spontent reports

15. A senior security source told *The Times* that after three weeks the ceasefire was holding very well. They had stopped targeting and surveillance as well as outright violence. The only worry was continued punishment beatings by groups that the IRA could control if it wanted to.

Northern Ireland's march-

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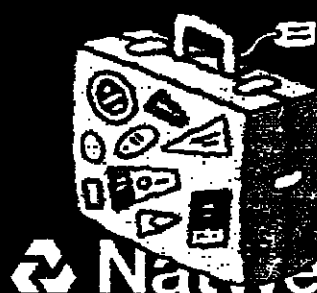
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Offer also applies to spouses

Where
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When men were the unfairer sex

The philosopher John Stuart Mill rejected subjugation of women in marriage, writes Emma Wilkins, but most of his peers took dominance for granted.

NEW MAN existed even in Victorian times. When John Stuart Mill married Harriet Taylor in 1851, the philosopher and economist signed away the marriage rights enjoyed by his contemporaries and accepted by their wives.

Mill declared his opposition to the legal subjugation of wives to husbands. "I, having no means of legally divesting myself of these odious powers, put on record a formal protest against the existing law of marriage," he wrote.

But Mill's egalitarian approach was not that of the majority of Victorian husbands. Until late in the century, a man exercised complete legal control over his wife's person and property and enjoyed the right to sole guardianship of their children.

A youthful Florence Nightingale, when weighing up the virtues of one suitor, decided she would find it impossible "to put it out of my power ever to be able to seize the chance of forming for myself a true and rich life". She never married.

The double standard under which it was considered acceptable for a man to visit a prostitute while a woman was expected to behave like the poet Coventry Patmore's *The Angel in the House*, was reinforced by the legal system. Under the Matrimonial Causes Act of 1857, adultery by a wife was immediate grounds for divorce but a husband's infidelity was considered an offence only if accompanied by cruelty or desertion.

In 1870, the first of a series of Married Women's Property Acts was passed, giving women control over their own financial affairs. But the march towards greater sexual equality was by no means continuous: in 1899, a jury in the case of *Regina v Clarence* asserted a man's right to rape his wife even when he was suffering from "advanced stages of syphilis".

Far from rebelling, many Victorian women seemed content with their role as keepers of hearth and home. Mrs Gaskell in *Mary Barton* blamed factory girls for "let-

ting their houses go all dirty, and their fires all out".

During the mid-Victorian period there was a general retreat of women from the workplace as the upwardly mobile working classes began to ape middle-class ladies of leisure. The trend was halted only at the end of the century when respectable job opportunities as teachers opened up with the growth of girls' secondary schools; and, with the opening of department stores (Liberty's in 1875 and Peter Jones in 1877), as shop assistants.

The foundation of the Mothers' Union in 1896 did not seek to extend women's rights but to safeguard their interests at home. Protection against excessive childbirth, avoidance of paid employment and a

children, visited Oswald Mosley's wife Cynthia after she had her first baby, she is said to have advised: "Dear child, you look very pale and must not have another baby for a long time. Henry always with-drew in time, such a noble man."

Middle-class women tried not to exceed two children. They were relieved when their *petit ami* arrived each month, although it tended to drive them to their beds for several days.

While most middle-class women remained little troubled by the women's movement, its impact on future generations cannot be underestimated. Thanks to the pioneering work of Miss Davies, who founded Girton College, Cambridge, in 1869, the higher education of girls was taken seriously for the first time.

The first colleges for women at Oxford — Lady Margaret Hall and Somerville — opened in 1879, but women were still not admitted to degrees — even when a Girton undergraduate achieved the only first in her year in classics in 1887.

A rigorous campaign for degrees at Cambridge began in 1896, prompting the *Full Mail Gazette* to publish fears that all Eton and rowing men would go to Oxford — thus upsetting the boat race results. The *Times* published a list of train timetables to help London-based graduates to get to Cambridge to vote against the admission of women. Cambridge did not admit women to full membership until 1948.

As the century drew to a close, the economic benefits of equality, which were to prove so vital on the outbreak of war in 1914, were beginning to be acknowledged.

As Miss Davies put it: "It can never be for the interest of society, in a purely economical aspect, to keep any class of its members in idleness. A man who should carry one of his arms in a sling, in order to secure greater efficiency and importance to the other, would be regarded as a lunatic."

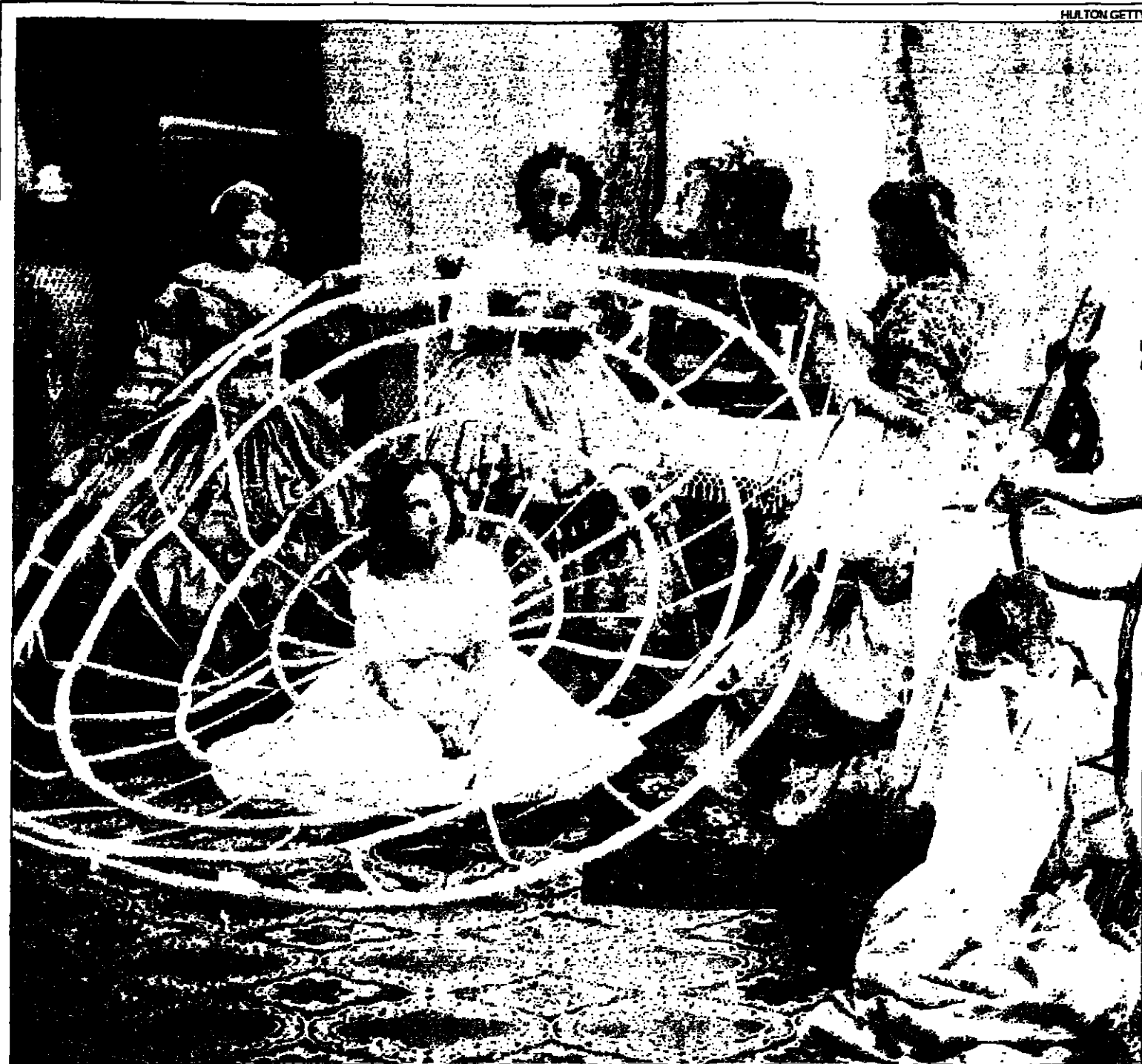
6 I put on record a formal protest against the existing law of marriage?

secure home were primary concerns for all but a few.

While Elizabeth Garrett Anderson — the first woman doctor — was battling her way into the medical profession and Emily Davies was leading the movement for women's education, a quiet revolution was in progress in Victorian households across the country: in 1870 the average number of children in families was six but by 1900 the figure had fallen to three per family.

The 1843 law forbidding the employment of children in mines was the first of several restrictions on child labour — reducing the economic benefits of large families for the working classes. Birth control was certainly practised, usually by *cotius interruptus*, and a large family became the object of pitying glances.

When Margot Asquith, who married in 1894 and had two



Until the introduction of crinoline in the early 1850s, the huge bell-shaped skirts had been achieved with layer upon layer of petticoats

From lace corsets to crinoline

New designs and materials gave women far greater freedom of movement

EVERY morning during their honeymoon at Windsor Castle, Prince Albert helped his young wife into her black silk stockings. It was a tricky procedure, which most ladies of rank left to the nimble fingers of their maids. Hoops at the stocking tops were joined with ribbons to a suspender belt around the waist. "It was the happiest time of my life," the Queen wrote in her diary.

The youthful Victoria's waist was then a svelte 18 inches — it would later expand to a magnificent 46 inches in the final years of her reign. While never greatly interested in fashion, the Queen was acutely aware of the need to patronise British goods.

A series of dances were held at Buckingham Palace in the 1840s and 1850s to support the ailing Spitalfields silk weaving industry. Two thousand guests were invited to attend the first ball costume in 1842 — all wearing fancy dress made from Spitalfields silk. The event was a great success, with the *Times* commenting later that there had been "an extraordinary improvement" in the industry. Following her husband's death in 1861,

the Queen wore black for 40 years. It was left to Princess Alexandra of Denmark, the elegant wife of the future Edward VII, to lead the way in fashion. It was partly her fondness for tailored suits and yachting outfits that ensured the popularity of these off-the-peg clothes. The introduction of crinoline in the early 1850s revolutionised women's clothing. Until then, the huge bell-shaped skirts had been achieved with layer upon layer of petticoats, the undergarments alone weighing 10lb. "It must have been like walking through treacle," says Sarah North, textiles curator at



Crinoline: lightweight

the Victoria and Albert Museum. The lightweight springy steel-framed crinolines meant women enjoyed greater movement, although a sudden gust of wind could prove embarrassing. Tightly laced corsets proved enduringly popular with women despite the deformities they caused, including distorted kidneys, withered backs and crooked spines. As early as 1834, Dr Andrew Combe of Edinburgh was warning that women sought the ideal "spider waist" at great cost to their health. But when Amelia Bloomer launched her controversial trousers and overskirt de-

sign in America in 1851, British ladies were not impressed.

The popularity of croquet, lawn tennis and bicycle-riding from the 1870s onwards ensured that womenswear became more practical, although some Wimbledon players complained that their corsets were bloodstained after matches.

The Rational Dress Society, formed by Viscountess Harberton in 1881, protested against "any fashion that either deforms the figure, impedes the movement of the body, or in any way tends to injure health". But not all women wanted to be liberated from their corsets: "Stick to your stays, ladies, and triumph over the other sex!" urged the editor of the *Women's Suffrage Journal*.

□ The Victoria and Albert Museum, Old Brompton Road, London, Open Mon, 12.5-5.30pm, Tues-Sun, 10am-5.30pm. Dresses and undergarments worn by Queen Victoria can be seen at the Museum of London, London Wall, until November. Open Tues-Sat, 10am-5.30pm, Sun, 12.5-5.30pm. Closed Mon except Bank Holidays.

Life behind the green baize door

Emma Wilkins reports on the strict domestic pecking order

FOR Miss Jane Langton of Brodsworth, the day began with a soft knock on her door as the parlourmaid entered with a cup of morning tea. After drawing back the curtains, the maid enquired before leaving Miss Langton to her morning ablutions.

But Miss Langton was not the lady of the house nor even the squire's daughter: she was the housekeeper at Brodsworth Hall, near Doncaster, south Yorkshire, where hierarchy within the servants' quarters was as strictly defined as it was between the working and upper classes.

Every evening after supper in the servants' hall, Miss Langton — housekeeper for 43 years from the 1850s — retired to her own sitting room with the butler and cook for pudding. "The ritual, known as 'Pug's Progress', left the scullery maid, parlourmaid and footman free to gossip.

Each of the 15 domestics at Brodsworth Hall, a magnificent Italianate villa built between 1861 and 1863, had strictly defined duties. The scullery maid was responsible for preparing vegetables and washing up after meals; the still-room maid made milk puddings, jellies and other treats while the footman shifted vast quantities of coal needed to heat the 16-bedroom house. A laundry maid was in charge of the linen cupboard, where ladies' and gentlemen's sheets were kept on separate shelves in accordance with Victorian views on propriety.

The Hall was owned by Charles Thelluson, the great-grandson of Peter Thelluson, a Huguenot banker who died in 1797, leaving a "fortune" of



The kitchen at Brodsworth Hall, left, has not changed since 1918. The hall's magnificent drawing room, right

£700,000 — the equivalent of £34 million today. The will was contested in Chancery for 50 years, inspiring Charles Dickens' *Jarmyde V Jarmyde in Black House*.

The vast Victorian kitchen, which dates from the time of Mrs Beeton, has remained almost untouched since it was closed after the First World War. Apart from the usual clutter of jelly moulds, sausage mincers and knife sharpeners, there are curios including bread moulds for making *mini-baguettes*. An early refrigerator with two compartments separated by a

large block of ice dominates one corner. It was topped up by the ice wagon from Grimsby once a month.

Neither Mr Thelluson nor his wife ever set foot in the kitchen. But for the Victorian middle classes, a spot of culinary experimentation was considered a novelty. During seaside holidays to Ramsgate, Marion Linley Sambourne — wife of a junior *Punch* cartoonist — enjoyed nothing more than mucking about in the kitchen. Like all respectable middle-class Victorian wives, Mrs Linley Sambourne kept a cook at her home in Ken-

ton and had only modest success in the kitchen. "Busy in kitchen," she wrote in her diary in 1888. "Made pastry and we were able to eat it! Cooked two tarts, washed up, busy all morning."

When at home, Mrs Linley Sambourne's day usually began at noon with a light breakfast of tea and scrambled eggs followed by a shopping trip to Harvey Nichols or Bakers. She avoided Harrods whenever possible: "To Harrods, dirty place — though cheap," she recorded.

Mrs Linley Sambourne, whose husband Edward was assistant to Sir John Tenniel, the chief cartoonist at *Punch*, spent her days supervising staff. The cook, nursery and parlourmaids were frequently summoned to the morning room, where she would complain of their impertinence and laziness. One cook was dismissed on the ground that she was "hideous".

Choosing menus for dinner parties was a vital part of the daily routine. The diary entry for March 4, 1879 reads:

"Eight to dinner. Artichoke soup, filets of salmon, leg of lamb, salad, new potatoes, stewed celery, Wild duck, watercress, Aldershot pud, plum pud. Soft roes of herring, biscuits, etc."

At one of the couple's less successful dinners, a promising young playwright blotted his copybook: "Rather slow dinner. O. Wilde sat next me and spilt all his claret all over my dress," Mrs Linley Sambourne wrote.

Mrs Linley Sambourne, who was greatly ambitious for her children, would have felt faint had she known that her great grandson, Antony Armstrong-Jones, was to marry Princess Margaret and honour the family name by giving his son the courtesy title Viscount Linley.

□ Brodsworth Hall, Brodsworth, near Doncaster. Open Tues-Sun and Bank Holiday Morn, 1pm-6pm. Tel: 01302-722598. Linley Sambourne House, 18 Stafford Terrace, London W8. Open until end Oct, Wed 10am-4pm, Sun 2pm-5pm.

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Presidents pay lip service to the lens

Intimate portraits of
America's First Couples
show how Glaswegian
clicked at White House

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

A KISS is still a kiss, a sigh is still a sigh, even for First Couples. These remarkable photographs of the Clintons kissing and of the Clintons almost kissing were taken by Harry Benson, the Glaswegian-born photographer who has made a name for himself on both sides of the Atlantic.

They are from an exhibition of Benson photographs, *First Families: an Intimate Portrait from the Kennedys to the Clintons*, that has just opened at Washington's most popular new attraction, the Newseum, a lavish showcase for print and broadcast journalism.

White House aides told Benson he had exactly five minutes to photograph Mr and Mrs Reagan for the cover of *Vanity Fair*. He was to wait in an anteroom and the couple

"I'd like a picture of you kissing, because yours is a love story"

mind a great Hollywood fadeout, like all those films I'd seen in Glasgow as a boy." The Reagans, both Hollywood stars before politics, willingly obliged. Then Mr Reagan looked at his watch and said he was keeping the President of Chile waiting. The shoot lasted six minutes.

The picture of the Clintons was snapped during their first presidential campaign in 1992 when Mr Clinton was taking a rare breather in a hammock. Benson said: "I like this picture because they don't quite kiss. That makes it more sensual somehow."

Benson complained in *The Washington Post* that there had been no recent intimate pictures of the Clintons because the White House press staff were keeping photographers out. In contrast to the Reagans, he said, the Clintons did not seem to be having any fun. "If they are having fun and we don't see it, that's a tragedy. Why won't they let me in?" he asked.

The message found its target. The next day President Clinton wrote a "Dear Harry" letter to Benson, complimenting him on his work. It said he had captured the public and private lives of successive presidencies and his images were imbued with warmth. Holding out a promise of seeing Benson soon, Mr Clinton wrote: "I know that when I do show up, you will still find a way to tell me where to stand and what to do!"

Other highlights from the exhibition include George Bush in the pool with his dog, Jimmy Carter washing his tennis court, Gerald Ford doing the washing up, Betty

Ford stretched out on the grass, Jackie Kennedy peeking around a door, Rosalynn Carter sitting on her White House bed, and Richard Nixon making his resignation speech to the staff while his wife looks on, her eyes filled with tears.

Benson began his career photographing weddings in Glasgow and, after a stint at Butlin's in Ayr, he joined the weekly *Hamilton Advertiser*. He covered Scotland for the *Daily Sketch* before moving to London, where he joined the *Daily Express*. His eye for the unusual led to his work appearing frequently in *Photofest*, an *Express* feature that initiated the idea of devoting half a page to a noteworthy picture. Sent to America to cover the first Beatles' tour in 1964, Benson decided to stay. His work has received numerous awards.

Benson's wife, Gigi, is from Texas and they have two daughters, both actresses. Now 67, he said: "Newspapers and magazines are not about photography. They are about interesting pictures. I want to put a camera where it's never been before." His presidential exhibit will move in November to New York, where he lives, and then go on tour around America to all the presidential libraries and museums.

□ New York: A man who sent "disturbing" letters to Chelsea



Almost, but not quite: the Clintons caught on film during their first presidential campaign. "It seems more sensual somehow," said Benson

Clinton, the President's daughter, will appear before a court in Washington today charged with violating firearms regulations (Tunku Varadarajan writes).

Vladimir Zelenkov, 26, was arrested at his home in Elizabeth, New Jersey, after he tried to make contact with Miss Clinton, claim Federal agents.

The Secret Service is taking "very seriously" the possibility that someone might intend to stalk the President's daughter, who leaves Washington shortly for California, where she will begin a "pre-med" degree at Stanford University.

Security arrangements at her hall of residence are being

reviewed in the light of the latest incident. According to reports, Mr Zelenkov had written "unflattering" letters to Miss Clinton. His friends say that he has an obsession with her and that he often drives from New Jersey to Washington to "meet the President".

Federal agents arrested Mr Zelenkov last week on weapons charges after a tip-off led them to a .38-calibre handgun and 156 rounds of ammunition in a bank safe-deposit box on Pennsylvania Avenue, a store's throw from the White House. Handguns are banned in Washington and Mr Zelenkov's licence entitles him to keep a gun only in the state of New Jersey.



Enterprising use of a tape recorder set up this shot of the Reagans at a six-minute White House session

Safety system at Guam airport failed after error in software

FROM JOSEPH COLEMAN IN AGAÑA, GUAM

A SOFTWARE error crippled an airport radar system that might have prevented last week's fatal crash of a Korean Air jet in Guam, federal investigators said yesterday.

The system, called an FAA Radar Minimum Safe Altitude Warning, normally issues an alert if an aircraft is flying too low and officials on the ground can then alert the pilot.

Federal agents investigating the crash, however, said the system at the island's Andersen US Air Force Base, was modified recently and an error apparently was inserted into the software.

George Black, a US National Transportation Safety Board investigator, said the software was modified to stop the system from giving too

many false alarms, adding: "The modification modified too much."

Korean Air Flight 801 crashed into a hillside overlooking Guam International Airport on Wednesday morning, killing 225 people. Safety board investigators are trying to discover the cause.

The investigators said the software error could not be pinpointed as the culprit in the crash, but a properly working system could have alerted the pilot to pull the jet to a higher altitude. "This is not a cause — it might have possibly been a prevention," Mr Black said.

The finding is a big piece in putting together the puzzle of the crash. Investigators think the pilot had full control of the jet at the time of the crash and are looking for clues to tell

them why he was flying so low just before the disaster. There were still months of work to be done, officials said.

Even without the warning system, the pilot had several other instruments on hand that could have told him that his aircraft was too close to the hillside.

"This is just one piece," Gregory Feith, the lead investigator, said. "Yes, it would have helped, but this is not, as we know it, the cause of the crash." He added that investigators were not even sure the system would have issued an alert in this case.

They were drawn to look into the system — and to tell the US Federal Aviation Administration, which detected the error — when an approach control operator told them he

had not received an alert before the crash.

The warning system was not the only piece of equipment which was not operating on Guam at the time of the crash. The airport's "glide slope" — which helps to guide the pilot to the runway — was out of action for regular maintenance. Many airports, however, do not have glide slopes and pilots use other methods for landing.

The altitude warning system is designed to cover a circular area with a radius of 55 nautical miles. However, since the software was modified, the system has covered only about a mile-wide circular strip that ran the circumference of that area. Flight 801 was not covered when it crashed. (AP)

'Outdoor smoking' ban goes

Washington: President Clinton has abandoned his derided plan to forbid outdoor cigarette smoking around the entrances to government buildings (Ian Brodie writes).

The idea was discarded as too draconian, the White House said. The decree would have forced workers who take a cigarette break from their jobs in no-smoking buildings to move at least 50 ft from doorways before lighting up.

Widely seen as an extreme case of political correctness, the proposed measure was attacked by the Tobacco Institute, the lobbying arm of cigarette manufacturers, which said there was no evidence that outdoor tobacco smoke was harmful to passers-by, and by civil servants who smoke.

Senator's killing raises fear of bloody Colombian poll

FROM VICTORIA BURNETT IN BOGOTÁ

THE assassination of Jorge Cristo, a Liberal Party senator, has raised fears that next year's Colombian presidential and regional elections will be dogged by political bloodshed.

Senator Cristo, who was to run for re-election next March, was shot dead as he got out of his car on Friday morning in Cúcuta, a border town near Venezuela. The National Liberation Army (ELN), one of Colombia's two principal guerrilla groups, has been blamed for the killing.

Senator Cristo, 67, was a close friend and staunch political supporter of President Samper, who called his murder an act of cowardly terrorism carried out by enemies of democracy and peace.

Politicians from all sides are concerned that Senator Cristo's death marks the start of a

bloody campaign by armed groups to scupper the election process. "I am alarmed by the wave of violence that has spread through most of the country in an effort to twist the elections," Juan Guillermo Angel, a Liberal candidate for the presidency, said.

Colombia, which is home to the world's biggest cocaine cartel and Latin America's

longest-running guerrilla war, has the reputation of being the Western hemisphere's most violent country, with 30,000 murders each year.

But the bloodshed traditionally peaks during pre-election periods as drug traffickers, left-wing rebels and right-wing paramilitary groups try to eliminate political opponents. The most notable victim was Luis Carlos Galán, presidential favourite in the 1990 election, who was shot dead in August 1989.

In recent months, guerrillas have intensified their decades-long war against the state, increasing kidnappings and bombing Colombia's main oil pipeline a record 45 times in seven months. The National Liberation Army recently declared all political figures military objectives.



Brewer plugs ozone-hole fix other science cannot reach

FROM MARK FULLER IN AMSTERDAM

FREDDY HEINEKEN, the Dutch beer magnate, claims that the hole in the ozone layer could be repaired in as little as five years.

A study issued by Mr Heineken's private office says there are two feasible methods for closing the gap in the layer of atmospheric gases which protects the earth from harmful ultraviolet rays.

Mr Heineken, who is no longer involved in the day-to-day running of the brewery, the world's second largest, said: "Manufacturers of sun oil with factor-25 protection will be against it. But let's be serious, there are two promising methods to repair the hole."

One method, being developed by an American sci-

entist, aims to use negatively-charged droplets of water to break down chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), the agents believed to have caused the hole. The other, the brainchild of a Russian scientist, would deploy microwave generators to break down the offending compounds, which are used in refrigerator cooling elements and as propellants for aerosols.

Egbert Duursma, a retired oceanography professor, was sponsored by the brewer to compile the study last year. "Mr Heineken has been going on about repairing the ozone layer since 1990, but we academics ignored him. I decided last year it was about time we found out," Professor Duursma said.

"The methods appear feasible, but they are still only theories. If field experiments are a success, it will be possible to close the hole. The total cost would be about \$2 billion dollars (£1.2 million)," he added.

Professor Alfred Wang, the American plasma physicist, has demonstrated in his laboratory at the University of California that spraying negatively-charged droplets of water into the atmosphere can

break down CFCs, Professor Duursma explained.

His solution would involve the world's 55,000 daily commercial flights each spraying 1,000 litres of negatively-charged water into the atmosphere.

The Russian method, devised by Professor Igor Kossyi of the General Physics Institute in Moscow, involves the use of military microwave generators.

Both schemes are ready for field trials and are each seeking funding of more than \$500,000. The billionaire brewer, however, is not going to stump up the cash. "Sorry, I'm the sower [of ideas] rather than the reaper. I think Russia and America are better placed than myself to find the sums of money necessary," Mr Heineken said.

The study also highlighted unwillingness of science and industry to repair the whole by technical intervention. "Researchers fear they will lose funding and politicians are already committed to the Montreal protocol, which focuses on reducing the production of CFCs," said Professor Duursma.

Leading article, page 19

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Bonn must keep bridges open to Poland as floodwaters recede

BOTH the German and the Polish Ambassadors have recently written to *The Times* to testify that there is no substantial friction between the two countries on helping flood victims around the River Oder.

A long catalogue of German aid, much of it spontaneously offered, suggests the diplomats are not being diplomatic. There has been some technical criticism of the Central Europeans — about the condition of the dykes and the emptying of reservoirs — and in the flood region German locals can be scathing about the floods and faces

INSIDE GERMANY



BY ROGER BOYES

bobbing their way towards the German part of the Oder. But, on the whole, the neighbours are happy enough with each other. Instead of being

an unpopular Cold War frontier, only reluctantly accepted by many Germans for decades, it has become a way of demonstrating that the Germans, Poles and Czechs have a common interest that goes beyond Nato and European Union enlargement.

Geopolitical thinking is back in vogue in Bonn, so analysts have made much of how the flooding highlights the irrelevance of politically drawn borders. Geopolitics was discredited because one of its leading apostles, Karl Haushofer, was so closely associated with Hitler. Now it is regarded as a way of making sense of Germany's

role at a time of shifting frontiers.

The lesson of the Oder floods is more complex. Germany was indeed quick to help Central Europe, and did so in an imaginative way — its machines are drying out books rescued from Wrocław University. But Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, did not waste many words on it. Instead, he has focused on the flood as a way of bonding the east and west Germany. Every day that sandbags are dropped on the banks, he is showing the sceptical, embittered easterners that Westis are not self-interested carpetbaggers.

The dyke-holding operation has become a political epic with 14,000 mosquito-bitten soldiers as extras. Television presents them, exhausted after work, passing around a hat to add a few marks for the flood victims.

The east Germans seemed genuinely touched. Central Europe, which has great expectations of Germany, should realise it will always take second place to this kind of strenuous nation-building. It is important to Germany, but not that important.

In this respect Poland cannot hope to enjoy a relationship with Bonn

that matches the Franco-German axis. For Paris, Germany is willing (though with more reluctance) to ditch or downgrade some of its national priorities. For Warsaw or Prague, the German commitment is less far-reaching. European entry negotiations will be an acid test of where Germany stands.

Claudio Magris's brilliant book *Danube* traced the river connections, established before and during the Austro-Hungarian Empire, that created a common culture stronger than the divisions imposed by Communist rule. The Oder, too, has a river culture that stretches back

centuries and colours the German attitude to Silesia. But the Oder is not the Danube.

Older inhabitants of Polish river cities like Wrocław or Opole were transplanted from an eastern Poland awarded to Stalin. They had little in common with the Germans across the river, who were in any case brought up by their Communist regime to be suspicious of the politically unreliable Poles. Since communism crumbled, there has been more cross-border competition — Stutube is trying to lure away Frankfurt's cus-

tomers for everything from bread rolls to striptease shows — than co-operation. The Oder operation marks the limits of geopolitics. Germany has been a good neighbour. There is mutual respect, and in many ways their relationship with Poland is more dynamic than the Franco-German friendship.

But the relationship demands constant attention. It is too easy at the moment for Germany to turn inwards and concentrate on its own problems. Even when the Oder waters have receded, the Chancellor would do well to carry on building bridges.

Prodi worried by Germans' euro 'paralysis'

FROM DEBORAH COLLICUTT IN FRANKFURT

ROMANO PRODI, the Italian Prime Minister, has given a warning that the political paralysis gripping Germany could be harmful to the future of the single currency.

In an interview with the *Welt am Sonntag* newspaper, Professor Prodi also proposed that Hans Tietmeyer, president of the Bundesbank, should be elected as head of the European Monetary Institute, which will become the European central bank.

"I do not like Germany when it is as paralysed as now," Professor Prodi said. "I am afraid of a Germany that is afraid."

Referring indirectly to a series of parliamentary logjams which have prevented Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU) from implementing tax and pension reforms vital to reducing unemployment and boosting the economy, Professor Prodi said Germany needed to flex its political muscle once more. "Uncertainty is more than anything else harmful to the process of European integration," he said.

Professor Prodi added that some of Herr Kohl's colleagues were creating trouble

by making Italy's proposed admission to the currency union in the first wave in 1999 a "domestic political" issue before next year's German election.

Asked for his reaction to remarks by some CDU politicians that Herr Kohl would lose the election if Italy joined economic and monetary union, Professor Prodi said: "That is a serious and dangerous mistake. I have one goal — that Italy joins the currency union, and I have asked my country to make sacrifices for that. I have put my own career at stake. It is not right that the fate of Italy can be sacrificed for the careers of German politicians."

Professor Prodi said that the economies of Italy and other countries throughout Europe had suffered since the fall of communism because the Bundesbank raised interest rates to head off inflation after German unification in 1990.

"It was OK that we had to pay for that, but now it is Germany's turn to understand the historical development," Professor Prodi said.

His refusal to be drawn on a timetable for the launch of the euro, but Professor Prodi said

he was confident it would be soon. "I am sure the euro is our future. In my view, there isn't any other country in Europe that has demanded of its citizens more than Italy to make the country fit for the euro."

Meanwhile, Theo Waigel, the German Finance Minister, called on Herr Kohl to reshuffle his Cabinet ahead of the autumn 1998 election.

Without naming names, Herr Waigel told the *Spiegel* magazine that only ministers and state secretaries who want to serve in the new legislative period after the election should remain in their jobs.

"I advise Helmut Kohl to take the team into the election with which he wants to work after the election," said Herr Waigel. "He said he had a message for those hoping to stay in office until then. 'Friend, it would have been nice, but now we have to select a new team.'"

Herr Waigel's comments, which contrast with a statement issued by the Chancellor before he went on holiday last week that there would be no reshuffle before the election, indicate that the possibility has not been ruled out.



Princess Elena of Spain on a yacht during the King's Cup sailing competition off Majorca, where the Spanish royal family is spending its summer holiday

Karadzic rival to form own party

FROM TOM WALKER IN BANJA LUKA

BILJANA PLAVSIC, the president of the Bosnian Serb republic, is to launch a new political party in her battle to wrest power from the shadowy forces of Radovan Karadzic, her predecessor.

Mrs Plavsic has been encouraged by Richard Holbrooke, the US special envoy, to oppose hardline Serbs loyal to Dr Karadzic.

Mr Holbrooke says that Nato's mandate under the Dayton peace accord must be

reinterpreted to allow international troops to disarm and arrest Dr Karadzic's clandestine police network.

By forming a new party, to be called the Serb Party of Republika Srpska, Mrs Plavsic hopes to woo the less fanatical wing of the Serbian Democratic Party (SDS) from which she has been expelled. Milos Prica, Mrs Plavsic's head of Cabinet, said: "People are sick of the bribery, corruption and robbery."

Revised Interest Rates For Accounts No Longer Open To New Investors.

Amended Investment and Savings Rates. Effective from 11th August, 1997.

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| Bonus Builder (Annually)** | | | |
| £100,000+ | 6.50% | - | 5.20% |
| £50,000 | 6.00% | - | 4.80% |
| £20,000 | 5.75% | - | 4.60% |
| £10,000 | 5.25% | - | 4.20% |
| £5,000 | 4.75% | - | 3.80% |
| Bonus Builder (Monthly)** | | | |
| £100,000+ | 6.30% | - | 5.04% |
| £50,000 | 5.85% | - | 4.68% |
| £20,000 | 5.60% | - | 4.48% |
| £10,000 | 5.15% | - | 4.12% |
| £5,000 | 4.65% | - | 3.72% |
| High Interest Account (Annually) | | | |
| £100,000+ | 5.75% | - | 4.60% |
| £50,000 | 5.25% | - | 4.20% |
| £20,000 | 5.00% | - | 4.00% |
| £10,000 | 4.50% | - | 3.60% |
| £5,000 | 4.00% | - | 3.20% |
| Monthly Income Account | | | |
| £100,000+ | 5.60% | 5.75% | 4.48% |
| £50,000 | 5.10% | 5.22% | 4.08% |
| £20,000 | 4.90% | 5.01% | 3.92% |
| £10,000 | 4.40% | 4.49% | 3.52% |
| £5,000 | 3.90% | 3.97% | 3.12% |
| £2,500 | 3.25% | 3.30% | 2.60% |
| Flexible Savings Account (Annually) | | | |
| £50,000+ | 3.60% | - | 2.88% |
| £20,000 | 3.50% | - | 2.80% |
| £10,000 | 3.25% | - | 2.60% |
| £5,000 | 3.00% | - | 2.40% |
| £2,500 | 2.75% | - | 2.20% |
| £500 | 2.50% | - | 2.00% |
| Instant Access (Annually) | | | |
| £50,000 | 3.60% | - | 2.88% |
| £20,000 | 3.50% | - | 2.80% |
| £10,000 | 3.25% | - | 2.60% |
| £5,000 | 3.00% | - | 2.40% |
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over different road surfaces and a powerful 220mm front disc brake adds secure stopping power. It comes with Piaggio's unique three-year unlimited mileage warranty.

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HOW TO ENTER

Collect four tokens from *The Times* this week and send them with the entry form, appearing on Thursday, stating which scooter you would like to win. The closing date is Friday September 12, 1997. Readers must be over 16 to enter.



Comoros conflict

Paris: The Comoros Government, according to a separatist spokesman, landed troops on the Indian Ocean island of Anjouan at the weekend to try to quell secessionist protests in favour of a return to French rule (Susan Bell writes).

The French Foreign Ministry refused to confirm the reports, saying that it had received conflicting information. France recently announced plans to decrease its influence in its former African colonies.

The protesters are envious of the comparative prosperity of the inhabitants of the neighbouring island of Mayotte, who voted by referendum to remain French.

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Green alliance fights to kill off Roman Games

FROM RICHARD OWEN
IN ROME

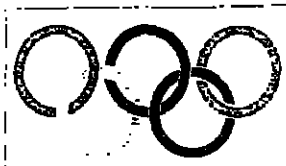
ROME is increasingly confident it will be chosen soon to host the Olympics in 2004. Preparations are in full swing and the Government has signed up Luciano Pavarotti to serenade the opening ceremony. *La Repubblica* reported.

But with less than a month to go before the winner of the competition to host the Games is announced, influential Italian environmental groups have launched a last-ditch drive to undermine Rome's increasingly ebullient campaign, led by Francesco Rutelli, the left-wing Mayor. Leading members of the Green Party and Italia Nostra, the equivalent of English Heritage, said that Rome was unable to cope with preparations for the millennium, and its ancient, crowded streets "of unmatched historic and artistic value" were completely unsuitable either for thousands of millennium pilgrims or for an influx of tourists and sports fans in 2004.

The critics, under the banner "Campaign against the Rome Olympics", accuse Signor Rutelli, himself a former leading Green, of allowing Italy's big building firms to profit from huge "white elephant" projects, known in Italian as "cathedrals in the desert". Such projects include allegedly unusable stadiums for games such as baseball, not an Italian pastime, and "unwanted" housing for 9,000 journalists at Torre Spaccata, an inconvenient and rundown area on the city outskirts.

Signor Rutelli says he has every confidence in Rome's qualifications. "We will do a magnificent job." He has staked his prestige on projects designed to make Rome fit for 2004 and the Olympics four years later. The International Olympic Committee will announce early next month whether Rome's bid has beaten Athens, Stockholm, Buenos Aires and Cape Town.

But Romans are becoming increasingly irritated by the



way in which the Eternal City has been turned into a gigantic building site, with streets ripped up for new tram lines and the installation of underground fibre-optic cables in a bright blue-ribbed plastic casing which has become as much one of the sights of Rome as the Colosseum or the Trevi Fountain. The campaign to "stop this madness" has the backing of figures such as Carlo Ripa di Meana, the former EU Commissioner and a leading Green, and Federico Zerri, the leading art expert.

Signor Rutelli's opponents complain in a report entitled *Ten Good Reasons to Say No to the Olympics* that many of

'The Olympics are profitable for sponsors, but the people are left with debts'

the construction bosses who stand to gain from projects linked to the millennium or the Olympics, or in some cases both, are also on the official committees allocating contracts. Italy, they say, is repeating the errors of the 1990 football World Cup, when huge sums of public money were "squandered" on new stadiums, one of which, in Turin, is to be razed because of building flaws and high running costs.

Rome is being "choked by benzene and ozone pollution", the report says, and has inadequate public transport and rubbish disposal arrangements. In their attempts to impress the Olympic decision-

makers, Signor Rutelli and the "Rome 2004" Committee are alleged to have "grossly exaggerated" the number of hospitals in the capital and the efficiency of its telephone service, while underestimating the level of crime.

There is also controversy over plans to build an Olympic village to accommodate 18,000 athletes and officials at Tor Vergata, the suburban campus of one of Rome's three universities. Transport between the Olympic venues and the Colosseum will be a nightmare, the report says. "The 2004 Committee fraudulently claims that it takes 23 minutes to get into town from the main airport at Fiumicino and 17 minutes from the second airport at Ciampino... anyone who lives in Rome knows that is a joke."

On finance, the critics describe Signor Rutelli's claim that the Olympics will "make Rome rich" as "propaganda". They say: "The Olympics are profitable for sponsors and merchandising, but the people are left with debts."

In a separate report, Italia Nostra said that work on a traffic overpass at the Castel San Angelo, on the Tiber embankment near the Vatican, had stopped because excavators had hit ancient foundations, "as archaeologists predicted all along".

Behind such charges lies the contention that Signor Rutelli is a Green "turncoat" who, before his election as Mayor in 1993, opposed the allocation of the Olympic Games to Italy (Milan was then the favoured site) on the ground that it would divert scarce resources from "real problems" such as urban decay and pollution.

Dario Fo, the left-wing playwright, suggested that perhaps Signor Rutelli really intended to use the Olympic village after 2004 to house Albanian refugees and would turn the unwanted "Media Village" into "an open prison for corrupt politicians and construction bosses".



Spaniards Abel Antón, right, the gold medallist, and Martin Fiz (silver) finish the world championships marathon in Athens yesterday

Fans banned in Athens security purge

FROM PHILIP PANGALOS
IN ATHENS

GREEK athletics fans have been barred from the national stadium for the past two days of the World Athletics Championships as city officials went into a near panic over security.

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the sixth championships held over the first ten days of August. The authorities postponed all summer leave for more than 8,000 police officers, while heavily armed special forces units were assigned to help in the security of 2,000 athletes from 200 countries.

The Athens General Directorate called in the extra police and heavily armed special forces units to provide additional security at the airport as well as at the Olympic Stadium, where most of the events have been held, and at the capital's leading hotels and all other facilities where athletes and visitors have been present. It is understood that teams from countries that could have been the target of terrorist attacks, such as Israel and the United States, have been surrounded by even tighter security. Traffic police have covered all the main routes from

the hotels where the athletes have been staying, as well as those of visiting dignitaries and the world's media, to ensure swift journeys to and from venues.

Additionally, inspections have been strict for spectators entering the Olympic Stadium and the Marble Stadium, the venue of the opening ceremony and the marathons as well as the home of the first modern Olympics held in Athens in 1896.

The Greek efforts, which also encompass a clean-up of central Athens, the repaving and washing of roads and the much-needed planting of shrubbery, appear to have paid off at a time when the Swedish bid to host the 2004 Games suffered a setback after last week's bombing. Most observers see Athens and Rome as the two leading contenders to host the 2004

Olympics. There is a minority of Greeks opposed to the 2004 Olympics, largely on cost grounds, but the majority is strongly in favour, especially after the national disappointment that came after losing to Atlanta over the 1996 bid. Infrastructure projects are well under way in the Greek capital, including the construction of the Athens metro and a new international airport at Spata, near the capital.

Greeks are often the butt of European jokes about their organisational skills, but Athenians may have the last laugh next month after hosting a relatively well-organised world championships which should, in turn, strengthen their bid to host the 2004 Olympics.

Athens athletics, page 24

Bitter Atlanta still licks its wounds

One year on, many in the city that held the last Olympics regret the whole affair, reports Ian Brodie in Washington

Olympic hosts, although they were left with \$1.25 billion of improvements, including a refurbished convention district, a new baseball stadium for the Atlanta Braves and Centennial Olympic Park.

What a city goes through to prepare for the Games is a "grinding, exhausting, interminable hell", says Bert Roughton, who covered the Olympic saga for the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* from the bidding days of 1989 to the closing ceremonies.

The Atlanta Olympics were the best attended ever, but none ever received worse reviews. The litany of complaints reported around the world included lost bus drivers, an underground with only sporadic air conditioning, shameless prices, technology on the blink and the endless torrents of commercialism, some of it tacky, that inundated the games.

One legacy has been enormous bitterness among street vendors, mostly black, who were enticed by city officials with promises of a "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity" at the "largest public gathering in history". Vendors who paid at least \$10,000 (\$6,250) for a street site often found the spot had been sold to someone else. One couple who paid their \$10,000 to sell an icy treat called a Sno-Ball sold only 30 during the Games.

The upshot has been two legal actions seeking damages in excess of \$20 million for 220 vendors who accused the city of fraudulent mismanagement. There are many accounts of bankruptcies, mortgage foreclosures, ruined businesses and liquidations.

Indeed, after Richard Jewell was cleared as a suspect in the bombing at Centennial Park,

the FBI began wondering if the explosion was the work of an outraged vendor.

Billy Payne, the property lawyer who almost single-handedly persuaded the International Olympic Committee to choose Atlanta, has not received the national hero status accorded to Peter Ueberroth, who made \$225 million on the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles and donated it to sport.

The Atlanta Olympics are said to have broken even, although the latest balance sheet had a contingency re-

serve of nearly \$40 million that could become a surplus if unused. Mr Payne now earns \$500,000 a year to round up new business as a vice-president at Nations Bank, a company with which he fostered a close relationship before and during the Games as his first sponsor to pay \$40 million. The bank also took the chance on granting a \$300 million line of credit to Mr Payne's organising committee.

From his office on the fifty-fifth floor of the bank building, he looks back nostalgically to

the intensity of Atlanta's efforts and reckons they were "worth it". He said: "I think the legacy of the Games is the spirit of the people, the longing to experience that kind of environment again, the happiness and celebration that were a part of it." He even suggests that, in the years to come, Atlanta might try to bid for the Games again.

There was a spectacular postscript to the Atlanta Olympics on Saturday when, with a series of controlled dynamite charges, the old stadium next door to the new Olympic Stadium was toppled to make way for a car park. The Olympic Village where athletes were housed has been converted into halls of residence for college students.

JOHN KUNTZ/REUTERS



Once part of the Olympic Village for the Centennial Games, the buildings have now been converted by Atlanta into halls of residence for college students

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Seismic records □ Fungal hairs □ Holy blood

Singing volcano

NOTHING is more exasperating than a low-pitched hum whose source escapes identification. Picture, then, the frustration of Dr Jacques Talandier of the French Atomic Energy Agency and Dr Emile Okal of Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, when they discovered on some old seismic records the evidence of a loud rumble echoing through the oceans. The extraordinary feature was that the sound waves were purer than a note from a musical instrument, completely lacking overtones.

The signals they found, recorded by French seismic stations in Polynesia, consisted of a single frequency, typically in the range between three and 12 cycles per second. Was it an animal, or a naval experiment? They looked at both possibilities, but dismissed them.

The sounds typically lasted from a few seconds to several minutes, *Scientific American* reports, and were especially noticeable between 1991 and 1992. An earthquake would have produced shorter sounds, a whale much higher frequency ones.

The first break came when they were able to pinpoint the source of the rumbles to a poorly surveyed area of the South Pacific. Old charts indicated that there was an underwater volcanic ridge in the area. A visit to the area last year showed that the ridge had a flat top, rising to within 400 feet of the

surface. Samples showed that although no eruption was occurring at the time there had been activity in the recent past.

There are lots of seafloor volcanoes, but they do not usually generate the rumbles identified in the seismic records. The two scientists wondered if the shallow depth might allow bubbles of steam to form and rise through the water, and consulted Dr Bernard Chouet of the US Geological Survey. He ran a computer simulation to see if a rising cloud of bubbles could behave as a resonant cavity, acting as a huge organ pipe.

He found that indeed it was possible for sound waves to bounce to and fro between the sea floor and the surface at a resonant frequency which was independent of the sideways extent of the cloud. So the frequency would remain steady. Overtones would be produced, but the bubbles of steam would be likely to damp out all but a very limited range of frequencies.

So is this the explanation? Maybe, say Drs Talandier and Okal, who published it in the *Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America* under the heading "Volcanological Speculations". *Scientific American* suggests that they should have started celebrating earlier, because the rising column of bubbles in a bottle of champagne might have given them the vital clue.



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

Healthy forest has its roots in sharing

IN A forest, some trees stand in the sun and others in the shade — yet all seem to flourish reasonably well. Some ingenious experiments in British Columbia have shown that an underground network of fungal hairs links the trees together and is used to carry a flow of carbon — the energy currency of plants — between them.

Dr Suzanne Simard and colleagues from the British Columbia Ministry of Forests, planted birch, fir and cedar seedlings in groups of three. To label the carbon made by each, they briefly surrounded the seedlings with plastic bags filled with carbon dioxide containing different carbon isotopes. The plants took up the carbon, incorporating it into the carbohydrates they made.

When they analysed the carbon in the different seedlings two years later, they found, they report in *Nature*, that fir seedlings in deep shade had obtained a tenth of their carbon from birch seedlings, through shared fungi. The cedars had gained nothing, because they do not share fungi with either of the two other species. The results show that trees can co-operate as well as compete, and emphasise once more the value of a diverse forest.

Another saintly miracle dyes

DOCTOR Luigi Garlaschelli of the University of Pavia delights in debunking the treasured relics of the Roman Catholic Church. The latest to fall under his scrutiny is the blood of St Lorenzo (St Lawrence), martyred by the Roman emperor Valerian in 258. Yesterday was the saint's feast day, so the congregation in the church near Naples where his blood is stored will have awaited the annual miracle — its liquefaction.

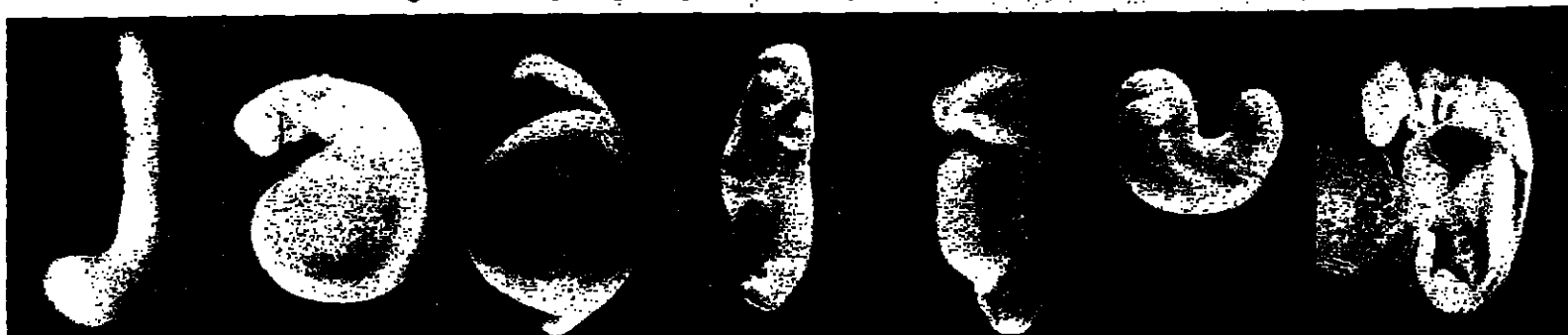
Dr Garlaschelli has examined the glass phial containing the blood, and reports in *Chemistry in Britain* that it consists of three layers of material, only the middle one of which liquefies, producing a clear ruby red fluid. This really happens, but how?

He tried shaking, which had no effect, and then gentle heating. At a temperature of 30°C the middle layer duly melted, suggesting that the miracle is a simply matter of temperature. He believes that it is not blood, but a mixture of fats, waxes and a red dye.

The movement of the relic from its usual sheltered niche to the altar for the feast day would perhaps be enough to provide the small increase in temperature that is needed for the "blood" to liquefy.



Above: Haeckel's drawings of how fully fledged organisms develop from different embryos. Below: how they really look



An embryonic liar

Fundamental research on embryos has been exposed as false, affecting evolutionary studies, says Nigel Hawkes

One of the most famous biologists of the 19th century has been accused of being a scientific fraud, a faker who has muddled the waters of embryology for generations.

As famous in his day as Darwin, Ernst Haeckel was a giant among German biologists. His fame was so great that his popular work *Weltreise* (The Riddle of the Universe), published in 1899,

sold 100,000 copies in its first year. One follower wrote that his name "will become a shining symbol that will glow for centuries. Generations will pass, new ones will arise, nations will fall, thrones will topple, but the wise old genius of Jena will outlast all".

In fact, Haeckel's ideas about evolution did not last long at all. But one has proved pervasive, emerging again and again in successive editions of textbooks, and underlying much of the thinking about how a fully fledged organism develops from a simple embryo. Now a lecturer at St George's Hospital Medical School in London, Dr Michael Richardson, has shown that even this, Haeckel's last bequest to science, is deeply flawed.

"This is one of the worst cases of scientific fraud," says Dr Richardson. "It's shocking to find that somebody one thought was a great scientist was deliberately misleading. It makes me angry."

His attack, in the August issue of *Anatomy and Embryology*, centres on some drawings originally published by Haeckel in 1874. They purport to show that as embryos, all species look remarkably similar: fish, salamanders, turtles, chickens, pigs, cows, rabbits and humans all start life as the same simple shape, developing their characteristic form later.

This point was central to Haeckel's view of evolution, summed up in the ringing phrase "ontogeny recapitulates phylogeny". What this meant was that ontogeny — the process of development of an individual organism — is a rerun, fast-forward, of the evolution of the species as a whole. In other words, our development in the womb recapitulates the rise of man from primitive creature to lord of creation.

His theory necessarily implies that in their early stages embryos should be closely similar or identical. Haeckel believed that evolution worked by adding layers of complexity to the basic embryonic pattern. "During its rapid evolution," he wrote, in 1896, "an individual repeats the most important changes in form evolved by its ancestors during their long and slow palaeontological development."

Haeckel's drawings survive in a modified form in books as authoritative as *Gray's Anatomy* and a textbook for medical students, *Developmental Biology*, by Dr Scott Gilbert of Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania.

Dr Richardson says everybody who studies medicine sees these pictures, but that he always felt there was something wrong. He could find no evidence to prove it, so he set

out to accumulate it. "Modern embryologists don't do comparative work," he says. "They work on chicks, or mice, or toads, or zebrafish. They don't compare one embryo with another — that's been out of fashion for half a century."

He assembled an international team of collaborators, collecting marsupial embryos from Australia, Puerto Rican tree frogs, snakes from France and an alligator embryo from Manchester, among others.

He found that contrary to what Haeckel had asserted, the embryos of different species are not all the same. In fact, they are so different that the drawings Haeckel made could not possibly have been done from life. "What he did was to take a human embryo and copy it, pretending that

the salamander and the pig and all the others looked the same at the same stage of development. They don't."

There is only one word for this, and Dr Richardson doesn't flinch from using it. "These are fakes. In the paper, we call them 'misleading and inaccurate', but that is just polite scientific language."

He believes that exposing the forgery is important because Haeckel's ideas have enjoyed an unexpected renaissance as a result of discoveries in molecular biology. Geneticists have found that many species share the same set of genes, called homeobox genes, which are responsible for the early stages of development. If they share the same genes, suggesting that they share the same shape does not appear

unreasonable. Many embryologists therefore still cling to the wreckage of Haeckel's theory.

Dr Richardson has presented his results at conferences, where they have caused a stir. "German delegates tend to be upset that their hero is under fire, while some Americans worry that criticising Haeckel will give ammunition to the anti-Darwin creationists. I, personally, think that biologists just need to bring this into the open so it doesn't fester," Dr Gilbert accepts the case against Haeckel, and says he will take the drawings out of the next edition of his book.

The crucial issue is that embryos do evolve, precisely the opposite of what Haeckel asserted. That, says Dr Richardson, could have a considerable effect on evolutionary studies, since under Haeckel's influence little effort has been made to study evolutionary change at embryonic level.

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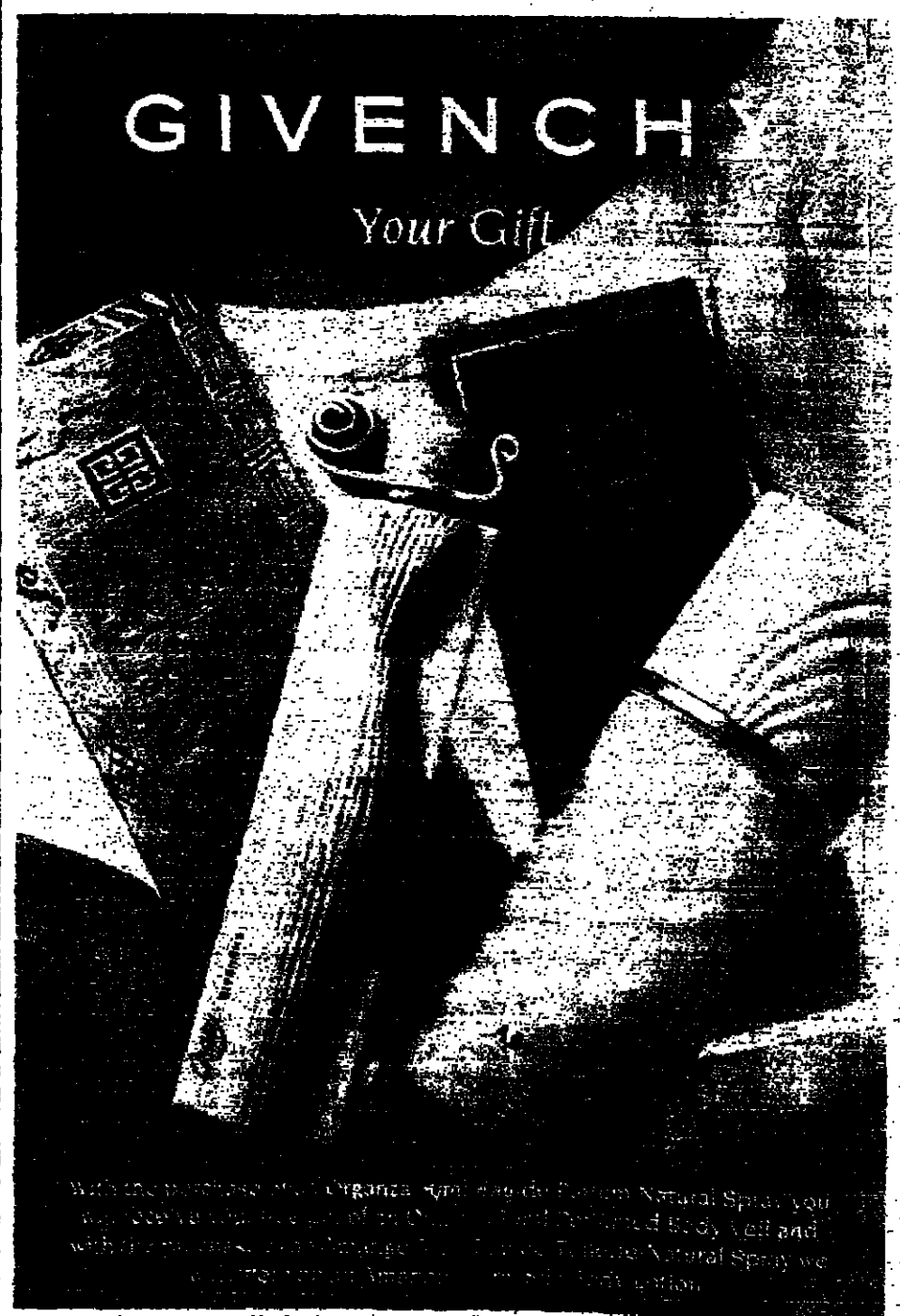
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No longer daddy's girl?



Bell epoch: Melissa and Martin during the campaign

Melissa Bell gave her all to help her father, Martin, win his Tatton seat. Now a former Army major has won her heart. Interview by Grace Bradberry

It has been a good summer for Melissa Bell, 24-year-old daughter of Martin Bell, the new MP for Tatton. As her father's chief canvasser, she was the undisputed heroine of the general election, his Secret Weapon, against the Hamiltons. Against the odds, her father, a Tory, won the seat. Now Melissa has bagged her own prize, a 37-year-old former Army major, Peter Bracken. They are to marry next summer — "Dad needs time to recover from the shock," says Melissa, flashing a smile over her champagne glass.

They became engaged in June — barely two months after meeting — but there happened to be a half-bottle of champagne in the fridge at Martin Bell's house in Hampstead Garden Suburb, where they are staying. Melissa has spent the week writing financial reports for a London press agency, Peter has just landed a job with a City recruitment consultancy. It is a Friday evening, but there is no sign of either of them winding down.

While she takes a phone call, Peter tells how he arrived in Tatton eight days before the election, a volunteer from Millbank, Labour's HQ. He insists he had no thoughts of seducing the candidate's daughter. "I'd seen pictures of Melissa when I was summarising the news at Millbank, but to tell you the truth, I didn't see why she would be interested in me."

It was some hours before Melissa and Martin returned from canvassing, and even then she took her time introducing herself. So insouciant was she that he didn't bother to gather intelligence on her private life.

"But I did," says Melissa.

reappearing. "I knew he had a girlfriend. I went to the trouble of finding out."

They had what Peter calls "small strategy meetings" in the pub. But any suggestion they might have flirted while on duty is treated with disdain. Like Martin Bell, Peter is earnest and conscientiously principled (he recently wrote to *The Guardian* condemning the Army's attitude to blacks, gays and women).

Melissa knows comparisons will be drawn. "Peter is neither the opposite of nor exactly like my father. They are both quite serious in some ways," Melissa speaks rapidly in a French-American accent — her mother, Hélène Gordon, Bell's first wife, is French, and Melissa grew up in Washington, where her father was based as a BBC correspondent. Her parents split up in 1985, after Bell's affair with an American journalist, Rebecca Sobel. Melissa was 15 when Bell split from Sobel, though it was a couple of years before she discovered that she and her younger sister had been a source of friction.

"She was always very nice to us, but apparently she didn't like children very much. Dad felt his home was our home. He wasn't going to get pushed around and I appreciate that. If I'd felt shut out from my father, it would have been awful. Because I saw both my parents so much and felt so close to both, things were OK."

Melissa, who studied politics at Warwick University, was working in Brussels in the marketing department of Reuters when she saw her father's first press conference. "I had never seen him scared before. I called him that night and said, 'Are you OK?' He sounded scared. He said twice, 'I'm really lonely. That was it,

next morning I was on the plane. Arriving an hour after Bell's encounter with the Hamiltons on Knutsford Heath, she found, "a very shaken Dad", so she quit her job and headed his campaign. Her public adoration of her father was a boost to the campaign. "I guess a daughter always adores her father if she's got a halfway decent one. You just generally have a bond with your dad, more than with your mum," she says, as though this were incontrovertible.



Melissa and her fiancé, Peter Bracken: He swears he had no thoughts of seducing the candidate's daughter

"I think I do have an exceptional father. There was never any question of pretending to be closer than we were, though I don't see enough of him actually."

She made up for that during the election campaign. Contrary to reports, Peter did not get much of a look in. "We had embryonic feelings for each other," he says. The turning point came when Peter went with Melissa to a hostile meeting with 100 Hamilton supporters in Great Budworth. "That was when I decided," she swallows the word decided, but Peter was clearly a marked man from then on. She did not know if her father would come. "There were calls of, 'It's a bit bloody rude if he doesn't turn up.' I was scared, and I felt better knowing Peter was there. There was definitely something..."

Ten minutes later, Martin arrived. "In 15 minutes the room was completely converted." And Melissa had acquired a second hero.

They spent the weekend after the election together, then Melissa returned to Brussels, to take up a different job. Peter flew out most weekends, or she came here. "It was intense from the start. It wasn't like we said, 'See you some time'."

Peter says the marriage proposal, as Melissa was cooking pasta in his Bristol flat, was unplanned. "We were hanging round the kitchen on an ordinary Friday evening."

Was she surprised? "Yes. It had crossed my mind, not that he would ask, but that I'd like him to ask. It took me a few seconds to work out whether he was serious. He said, 'Marry me.' Two seconds later, I said, 'Yes.'"

As a child of divorced parents, she might have been expected to think about it longer. She says her parents'

break-up has made her take marriage more seriously. "I wouldn't have accepted unless I knew I would make it work. I never thought marriage was important, but then you meet the person and you know."

Peter recognises, however, that they were both at turning points. "Melissa was wondering about her future, as I was mine. There was a sense of adventure about it, and that affected our outlooks, too."

It was not until the day after the engagement that Melissa called her father. "He asked me to call him back so he had time to sit down and absorb the shock. I called him an hour later, and he'd had a couple of drinks and seemed more relaxed. I think what really worries him is the idea of becoming a grandfather one day."

Afterwards, they called Melissa's mother, who was holidaying in Normandy. "She'd met Peter by then and was very enthusiastic about the idea."

Peter called his mother. He has no memory of his father, who left when Peter was three, and there has been no contact. "His lack of curiosity I find breathtaking," says Peter. His father is not even aware that one of Peter's sisters, Linda, has died of cancer.

It is in stark contrast to Melissa's relationship with Martin, which Peter dubs "charming". The two men have bonded. Melissa says: "Dad came home from the bank the other day mumbling he'd been asked to pay off my overdraft. He told Peter this was the official handover."

It is impossible not to wonder if Peter is another father figure. Melissa puts the age gap down to chance. "I've never had a boyfriend as old as Peter — always under 30 at

A Princess who deserves romance

It may be a big surprise, but she's entitled to it, says Alan Hamilton

Diana, Princess of Wales, once described herself as being as thick as a plank. This is patently not so. She may not spend her evenings analysing Proust, but any woman who can manipulate the world's media to the extent that they will fall over their cheque-books for a set of fuzzy and inconclusive pictures of her in the company of her new man is clearly in possession of a fair degree of nous.

The build-up was brilliant. On holiday at Mohamed Al Fayed's villa in St Tropez, she made sure the cameras had ample opportunity to capture her in leopardskin swimsuit, at the peak of physical condition and looking, at 36, better than she has done for years. Then she sailed out to the launch carrying the British royal raptair, the so-called *crème de la crème*, and told them: "You are going to get a big surprise at the next thing I do."

Last the plot became too utterly vacuous, she next announced a forthcoming visit to Hong Kong to support a hospice charity, and a trip into the still-dangerous territory of Bosnia-Herzegovina in pursuit of her anti-landmines campaign. The tabloid appetite for news of the Princess is permanently insatiable, but it had now been honed to a particularly keen edge.

So when, last week, an Italian paparazzo offered a set of grainy long-lens pictures of the Princess embracing a hunk of Arab manhood, the bidding became frenzied. The photographer is reportedly £3 million better off, despite the fact that, had the key picture been developed at Boots, it would have come back with one of those fault stickers saying "Out of focus".

The story is perfect. The Princess's latest catch, if catch he be, is the son of the man who owns our top grocery store and who helped to bring down the last Government by the judicious use of brown envelopes, but who has still failed in his ambition of owning a British passport. He cannot but be grinning from ear to ear that his child has captivated the mother of the next king but one.

Dodi Fayed belongs to that cast of characters who inhabit the pages of *Hello!* magazine: his is the world of Mediterranean yachts, apartments in London — where he entertained the Princess to dinner on Thursday — New York and Los Angeles, and B-list celebrities for company. He is 41, divorced, and known for

squirring the sort of not-quite-famous women referred to in Hollywood as "arm candy".

Tiny Rowland, arch enemy of the Fayed, observed from the deck of his own yacht in Monte Carlo that the pair were well suited, on the ground that both were light on intellectual wattage.

Tabloid speculation, meanwhile, is on a mission to Mars, with assertions that Dodi is off to buy a ring and quotes from "friends" that this is the real thing at last. How frightfully useful to have friends who keep the press posted on one's private life: it saves the trouble of doing it oneself.

Whatever the truth of the matter, the Princess deserves a fulfilling physical and emotional relationship after the chill and cheating of marriage and her brush with the scoundrel James Hewitt. Dodi's world is somewhat removed



Meeting of two worlds

from the one that she left, although it is one where they have the means to keep intruders at bay. It was a world that Jackie Kennedy fell into with a degree of relief: marriage to Aristotle Onassis gave her security both financial and physical.

The Princess claimed recently that her children had urged her to live abroad to escape constant press hounding. But she is more than happy to use the press when it suits her, in her admirable landmines campaign as well as in her Riviera swimsuit appearances. Given that she is the mother of the future monarch, she is never going to be left alone by the media, even if she were to slip permanently into Dodi's *demi-monde*.

Everyone will wish the Princess well, although the cynical may wonder if she is merely cooking a snook at her past connections, and the concerned may worry that the rebound is not the best moment for good judgment. If the earth moves for her, we shall all hope that it is not as a result of her treading on one of her own emotional landmines.

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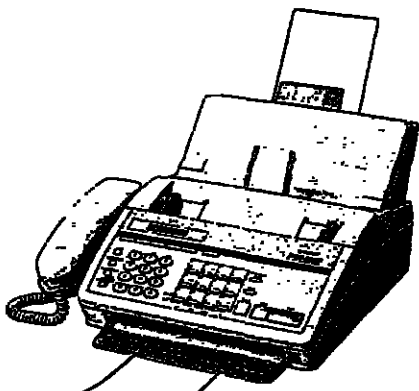
'My father thought I was crazy. My husband would never dream of going. Only my mother seemed to understand.' Sue Corrigan goes to Lourdes

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Flower of Scotland in finest array

John Russell Taylor visits the Edinburgh Festival's big visual art shows, dedicated to two of the country's most famous painters and one remarkable collector

For once, in this, the 50th anniversary Edinburgh International Festival, several of the major exhibitions presented by the National Galleries of Scotland are intimately bound up with art in Scotland. And the most prominent of them, that devoted to Sir Thomas Raeburn at the Royal Scottish Academy, reinstates a major Scottish artist to his rightful place as a major artist.

Raeburn (1756-1823) is described by the organisers of the exhibition as "by far the best-known of all Scottish painters". That may well be so, but if so it is perhaps not saying much for the fame of Scottish painters in general. Outside Scotland, at least, the response of many cultivated people might well be: I know the name, but remind me of an image. Nowadays the quickest reminder would probably be the graceful, bizarre picture of the Rev Robert Walker, the Skating Minister, progressing determinedly on one foot across a frozen loch. Contemporaries would have been astonished at our familiarity with this painting, so untypical of Raeburn and so obscure until 1949, when it was bought by the National Gallery of Scotland and caught the imagination of the world, becoming the gallery's virtual trademark.

Contrary to what this painting might suggest, Raeburn was primarily a portraitist of the (locally) great and famous, and portrayed them in a pretty traditional fashion. But contrary to what that might suggest, he was full of humour and mischief. He could summon up the grand manner when he wanted to, but was very happy to paint such notables as General Francis Dundas and his wife at the end of a chess game which has evidently not gone in his favour, as well as painting children and dogs, all of whom he takes seriously and unquietly on their own terms as idiosyncratic individuals.

Another famous image (although more to the Victorians than ourselves) is *Boy and Rabbit*, his stepson Henry Raeburn Inglis with friend, which he chose to send to the Royal Academy as his diploma

piece in 1816 when informed that the self-portrait he had originally sent in was, being a self-portrait, not acceptable.

These two pictures, which hang side by side in the show, might be taken to indicate the range of Raeburn's responses to the human figure. The boy is all charm and tenderness, the man all sternness and dignity, determined to impose himself for a critical London audience as a figure of eminence and importance. Miraculously, the boy is not sentimental, the man not pretentious: in both, Raeburn is the painter first, the publicist a long way after. Of course he has designs on the spectator — what painter does not? — but the designs are realised by purely artistic means which included, in the case of the self-portrait, re-angling the figure on the canvas at a late stage in order to give it more weight and substance.

The most extraordinary thing about Raeburn is his painterly handling of light. His colouring is not brilliant, tending towards the reddish, brownish shades, but this has its artistic uses, tending to bathe his paintings in an autumnal, sunset glow.

In most of the paintings notionally placed outdoors this is literally true: the magical double portrait of Sir John and Lady Clerk of Penicuik has an almost elegiac quality derived from the sunset in the background, while Raeburn's hunters, like Robert Ferguson of Raith (with a splendidly characterful dog) and *The Archers* — Robert Ferguson again with his brother Ronald — appear to have set out for a little early evening shooting. Even the Drummond children in the famous triple portrait at the dawn of their life seem to be at the dusk of their day.

If, at the outset of his career, Raeburn was much inspired by Reynolds, technically he very rapidly moved on. Later, the ease and freedom of his handling is at times almost Impressionist. If one looks at the hands of his sitters, for instance, the way that they are sketched in with a few telling strokes looks back to someone like



Sir Henry Raeburn's portrait of Sir John and Lady Clerk of Penicuik (1791), one of the works in the Royal Scottish Academy's tribute to "the best-known Scottish painter"

Hals, but also looks astonishingly forward to another of the National Galleries' chosen subjects this year, Sargent. The Sargent exhibition, *Portrait of a Lady*, is just next door in the National Gallery itself, and finds its Scottish connection in the lady in question, Lady Agnew, whom Sargent's 1892 portrait made famous much as it made him famous.

The show is what we have come to think of as a typical Timothy Clifford extravaganza. Clifford, superno of the Scottish National Galleries, believes passionately in context: showing the paintings along with furniture and applied arts of the time, embowering the Carrara sculptures of Canova in flowers no less dazzlingly white than they. This time one has a

feeling that the scent of tuberose should be piped in to complete the illusion of turn-of-the-century life for the rich and famous.

But a serious point is made. There has been something of a reaction against Sargent's sybaritic celebration of sheer luxury in his painting, but for a true painter what matters is whatever turns him on artistically, whether or not it accords with current prejudices and puritanisms.

The show gathers together a stunning collection of Sargent's society portraits from all over the world to recreate a whole scene, that of the Agnews and their friends, and to show how Sargent used his brilliant technique to

transmute what was quite possibly vulgar and ostentatious in its time into absolutely timeless art.

The other Scottish patron celebrated for this festival was much more unassuming: what interested Gabrielle Keiller (1908-1995) was the art of others rather than building her own image. Fame she had anyway achieved for herself on the golf course: her interest in modern art did not begin to flourish until she was in her fifties, when she was inspired by a visit to Peggy Guggenheim's collection in Venice in 1960 and the presentation of Eduardo Paolozzi's work at the Venice Biennale the same year.

But once the passion was kindled, it was complete and obsessive. By the time of her death, she owned more than 70 works by Paolozzi,

and one of the most extensive and significant private collections of the Surrealists and their relations in the world. All of these have been left to the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, and are on show now as a unity before being integrated into a collection which already contains most of the Roland Penrose Surrealist collection and some choice works that once belonged to Edward James. This makes the Edinburgh gallery one of the best equipped in the world for Surrealist works of art.

The interesting thing about the Keiller collection, apart from its size (more than 170 works) and quality, is the way that the collector's interests ranged well beyond the central Surrealist corpus, but always within the same recognisable

taste boundaries, so that the connections between the vision of classic Surrealists such as Ernst, Dalí, Magritte and Giacometti and that of, say, Paolozzi, Bacon, Burra and even John Davies are clear for all to see. It is no doubt also typical of the collector that the nearest her collection comes to a portrait of herself is a Warhol portrait of her favourite dog.

● Raeburn, sponsored by Elf, is at the Royal Scottish Academy until Oct 5
● The Portrait of a Lady, sponsored by GNER and Orient-Express Hotels, is at the National Gallery of Scotland until Oct 19

● Surrealism and After, sponsored by McGrigor-Donald Solicitors, is at the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art until Nov 9. Inquiries for all shows: 0131-624 6300

High camp on a high wire

ONE of the best games for aficionados of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe is spotting the show that will become the acclaimed hit.

Acrobat is put together by nine Australians who bill themselves as Australia's most outrageous circus company. En route to performances in Edinburgh, they treated visitors to last week's tenth Stockton International Riverside Festival to an electrifying display of tumbling skills, tight-rope walking and trapeze work. This is high camp in a big top, sheer physicality interspersed with raw Aussie

verse objects with a personable patter.

The festival's first music commission was a collaboration between Brit award nominee John Surman and Northumbrian pipes doyen Kathryn Tickell, a meeting of jazz saxophone and traditional

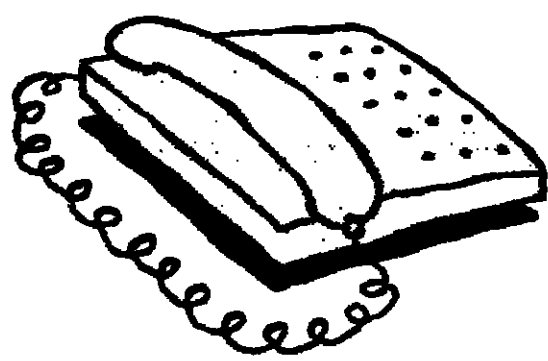
music. Also specially commissioned was DC Events' *The Street of the Moon*, a floating spectacular on the Tees based on Robert Graves's poem *The White Goddess*. This featured a floating swan, a man in a clockwork universe, a volcano defended by dragons and Japanese drummers, a fruit bowl containing an Indonesian gamelan orchestra and a pink iceberg squirting water. Obviously.

DAVID WADMORE
● Acrobat is at the Assembly Rooms, Edinburgh, until Aug 14

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Riverside
Stockton-on-Tees

humour. Atraudian in influence, it shocked and mesmerised, unleashing an atmosphere of barely controlled danger, enhanced by heavy rock music and dramatic lighting.

The Stockton festival hosts the biggest gathering of street entertainers in Europe. "You could rob the Post Office during the festival and people would applaud," says Anvil Springstein, stand-up comic and compère-at-large. For ten days Stockton-on-Tees is awash with more than 200 performances by dozens of acts from around the world. With funding of more than £500,000, admission prices are low, and many of the events are free.

Festival director Frank Wilson spends months travelling the world to find the right combination of talents. Two Belgians, Wurre Wurre, patrolled the streets in synchronised flippers. Brazilians Osadia gathered crowds as they performed free psychedelic hairdos; and the motorised pram of Parisian Charlie Enor harangued the crowds and chased ambulances. Accoules Sax from Marseilles swung the crowds in their direction either in concert or just ambulating along the High Street, six brass and two percussionists, defying anyone to remain still. El Papi Free from Spain featured a stream of highly accomplished jugglers, musicians and acrobats. Canadian magician Jeff Bradley manipulated both the crowd and a number of di-

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The return of the sophist

Roger Scruton on the danger of philosophies sold from the shelf

The ancient Athenians, who roved far and wide in the Mediterranean, saw the variety and absurdity of man's religions. After centuries of successful trading, the local gods and festivals could no longer satisfy their religious need. Their spiritual hunger was exacerbated by the stress of city life, by the constant threat of destruction, and by the grim vision of totalitarian Sparta: the vision of Greeks living without light or grace or humour, as though the gods had withdrawn from their world.

Into the crowded space of Periclean Athens came the wandering teachers, selling their wisdom to the bewildered populace. Any charlatan could make a killing, if enough people believed in him. Men like Gorgias and Protagoras, who wandered from house to house demanding fees for their instruction, preyed on the gullibility of a people made anxious by war. To the young Plato, who observed their antics with outrage, these "sophists" were a threat to the very soul of Athens. One alone among them seemed worthy of attention, and that one, the great Socrates whom Plato immortalised in his dialogues, was not a sophist, but a true philosopher.

The philosopher, in Plato's characterisation, awakens the spirit of inquiry. He helps his listeners to discover the truth, and it is they who bring forth, under his catalysing influence, the answer to life's riddles. The philosopher is the midwife, and his duty is to help us to what we are free and rational beings, who lack nothing that is required to understand our condition. The sophist, by contrast, misleads us with cunning fallacies, takes advantage of our weakness, and offers himself as the solution to problems of which he himself is the cause.

There are many signs of the sophist, but principal among them are these: mumbo-jumbo, condescension and the taking of fees. The philosopher uses plain language, does not talk down to his audience, and never asks for payment. Such was Socrates, and in proposing him as an ideal, Plato defined the social status of the philosopher for centuries to come.

No one should doubt that sophistry is alive and well. Many of today's gurus are sophists: Derrida, Foucault, Heidegger, Lyotard, Rorty, to name but a few. But those that are alive make their profits through the university system, giving lectures that pretend to be educational. The pre-Socratic practice, of offering private guidance to the bewildered and curing their troubles by squeezing their purse (a practice which creates a powerful motive to leave bewilderment behind), has been the monopoly until recently of the psychoanalyst.

But we have entered the post-modern era — the era when beliefs and faiths are available off the shelf. More and more people are turning to philosophy, a kind of

Which? report on available options. And what is the use of guidance if it cannot be packaged for the consumer, as the personal ointment to his personal wound? Louis Marinoff, Professor of Philosophy at New York's City College, has been first off the mark in exploiting the new cultural climate. If philosophy is to be marketed successfully, then people must pay for it. For people value goods according to the price required to obtain them, and in a consumer culture only what is costly can console.

Professor Marinoff compares his goods favourably with those of the psychotherapist. Discussing a recent case in which he treated a woman haunted by her dead brother's spirit, he said: "Psychotherapists would say she is recreating the guilt triggered by her brother's death. But it may be possible, according to some belief systems, that there was something there. I am there to help the client understand her belief system."

The remarks were reported in the *New York Observer*, and may not be verbatim. But they tell us much about the professor's vision of his trade. No longer does the philosopher

A 'belief system' will be offered, dressed in suitable mumbo-jumbo

guide us towards the truth, through awakening our inherent reasoning powers. He parades before us a catalogue of "belief systems", helps us to identify our own among them, and maybe encourages us to replace it with something more up-to-date. And no doubt, in order to persuade the client that her money has been well invested, the favoured "belief system" will be dressed up in suitable mumbo-jumbo, and priced at a rate that will make it psychologically necessary for the client to persuade herself that she is being cured.

Small wonder, then, that Professor Marinoff's wheeze is catching on, and New York's psychotherapists are hurriedly lowering their fees in response to the only competition they have had since the collapse of the old religions.

The sophists are back with a vengeance, and are all the more to be feared, in that they come disguised as philosophers. For, in this time of helpless relativism and subjectivity, philosophy alone has stood against the tide, reminding us that those crucial distinctions on which life depends — between true and false, good and evil, right and wrong — are objective and binding. Philosophy has until now spoken with the accents of the academy and not with the voice of the fortune teller.

When Plato founded the first academy, and placed philosophy at the heart of it, he did so in order to protect the precious store of knowledge from the assaults of charlatans, to create a kind of temple to truth in the midst of falsehood, and to marginalise the sophists who preyed on human confusion. Little did he suspect, however, that he was providing the sophist with his ultimate disguise.

A Royal remarriage would highlight the conflict between Church teaching and contemporary culture

There is an insoluble conflict between religion and modern culture. The essence of Christian teaching is that marriage is indissoluble. Two passages in the Gospel of St Matthew make this clear, one in the Sermon on the Mount and again, later, when Christ's teaching is challenged by the Pharisees. In Matthew, chapter 19, there is this key passage: "The Pharisees came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause? And he answered and said unto them, have ye not read that He which made them at the beginning made them male and female? And said, for this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh. Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let no man put asunder."

The Pharisees felt that this was too rigorous. "They say unto him, why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away? He said unto them, Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so. And I say unto you, whosoever put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and who so marryeth her which is put away doth commit adultery." This is the basis of the marriage doctrine of all the major Christian churches and has been so for nearly 2,000 years.

When the Archbishop of Canterbury said in Australia that a decision by the Prince of Wales to remarry, which he does not expect, would cause a crisis in the Church of England, he was not just talking about a little local difficulty. Since the sexual revolution of the 1960s, there has arisen a complete contradiction between the Christian view of sexual

morality and the culture of the Western world. This is where the difficulty lies. To the Christians, marriage is indissoluble and adultery is a sin. To the world at large, marriage can be dissolved on a "no-fault basis" and adultery is a legitimate social option.

Most modern people now regard the Christian view of marriage as unrealistic and cruel. Good pastoral priests do, indeed, support and care for those whose marriages have broken down, or whose sexual lives are troubled. But they do not equivocate on the doctrine. Gilbert Burnet, who was the Bishop of Salisbury in the reigns of William and Mary and Queen Anne, provides a good example of what was the classical Anglican view. "Persons in wedlock, that suffer their affections to wander after other objects, lose the happiness of a married state: come to neglect their families, and grow careless of their children; besides that, a train of lying and falsehood follows every step they make in these vicious courses... not to mention those loathsome diseases that they do contract and communicate..." That is the old pragmatic Anglican view of adultery: a much more profound spiritual attitude can be found in St Augustine's Confessions, written more than 1,000 years earlier.

Whether one takes it at the pragmatic or the spiritual level, modern culture no longer accepts these Christian conclusions. About a third of all

marriages in the United Kingdom end in divorce. The law was changed by the last Government, removing all concept of fault. Marriage is now almost the only contract which can be broken at will. Yet marriage is not the only issue of sexual conduct in which the law has been radically changed. Since the 1960s, homosexual relationships have been legalised, and the age of homosexual consent will probably be lowered in this Parliament. The change in the abortion law was even more extreme. Fifty years

ago procuring an abortion was a felony, punishable by penal servitude for life; when the death of the mother resulted, that was murder, and punishable by death. Now the United Kingdom allows, in effect, abortion on demand. The liberal sexual revolution, part good, part bad, has been almost total.

This is a huge cultural experiment of a worldwide character. We read about it every day in newspapers. Adultery in high circles has become the running story of this year's silly season, ranging from senior politicians in Britain and Germany, to the

President of the United States, to the Royal Family. Yet the revolution is incomplete in two ways. Adultery may have been accepted in practice by many individual Christians, but it is not accepted in the doctrine of the Christian churches. The public attitude still combines permissive and censorious elements in an unpleasant way.

For newspaper readers, adultery still seems to be a subject of extraordinary fascination. The *Sunday Mirror* is said to have sold out yesterday, with nine pages of rather blurred photographs of Diana, Princess of Wales, kissing or not kissing Mr Dodi Fayed. The pictures were taken at long distance by telephoto lenses, and they show it. Nevertheless, the *Sunday Mirror* paid £250,000 for them, and the price seems to have been justified in terms of sales.

None of us controls the culture in which we live. So far as that is concerned, we are all flying in a jumbo jet with a blind pilot to an unknown destination. Many of our beliefs and values are shaped, beyond our knowing, by the country, generation and class of our birth. Take, as an example, the life of Dodi Fayed. He is not as unpopular as Camilla Parker Bowles used to be, but he risks her unpopularity. Like her, he has intruded on a dream. The ancient Greeks knew that flirting with goddesses leads to trouble.

He, too, is a victim, as well as a beneficiary, of this fashionable cul-

ture. He is the son of a self-made Egyptian billionaire, who has realised his own dream of owning Harrods, an odd dream to have. Such men often spoil their children and have very high expectations for them — a difficult combination for the child. Dodi has helped to make some good films — he must be a man of some sensitivity; his friends describe him as kindly and gentle; he is now over 40; he has had one marriage, which lasted less than a year, and has dated many film stars. They are notorious for being unhappy women, neurotic almost in proportion to their stardom. He is now dating Diana, the most celebrated woman on earth, and has to do so under the eye of the paparazzi. I feel sorry for her: I feel sorry for him. I do not know what Dodi Fayed wants in life, but I suppose he wishes to be happy. Divorced men in their early forties, with a lot of money and a string of glamorous relationships behind them, very seldom are happy — they are more often lonely and unfulfilled.

Old Testament prophets such as Jeremiah gave sometimes rather hysterical warnings that the pleasure-seeking culture contains the seeds of its own destruction. "They were fed as horses in the morning; every one neighed after his neighbour's wife. Shall I not visit for these things? Saith the Lord." Christians can protest against the onward march of modern times: to his credit Dr Carey does so.

Yet the march of modern culture continues. The history of earlier civilisations suggests that a pleasure culture does, indeed, destroy the happiness which is its objective; cultures which depend upon duty tend to be more creative. But we are not the pilots of our cultural aircraft: we do not know how long it will go on flying, nor in what wilderness it will eventually land.

Flying without the celestial pilot

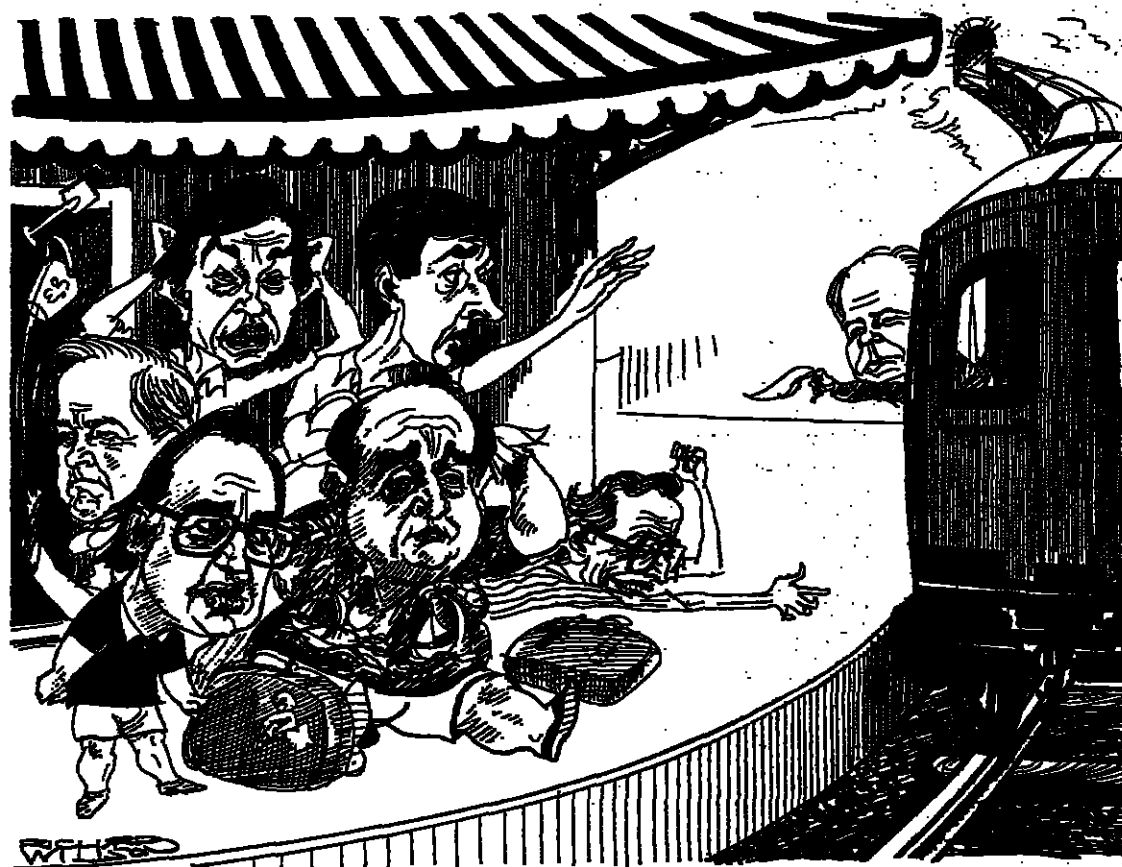
William Rees-Mogg

ago procuring an abortion was a felony, punishable by penal servitude for life; when the death of the mother resulted, that was murder, and punishable by death. Now the United Kingdom allows, in effect, abortion on demand. The liberal sexual revolution, part good, part bad, has been almost total.

This is a huge cultural experiment of a worldwide character. We read about it every day in newspapers. Adultery in high circles has become the running story of this year's silly season, ranging from senior politicians in Britain and Germany, to the

Tories who missed the train

The old guard should go with dignity, says Mary Ann Sieghart



The sun is filtering on to the flagstones of the vine-clad verandah, the Orvieto Classico slips down coolly, and a post-prandial siesta beckons. For the first time in a year, husband and wife have had a decent conversation and the children have seen more of their father in the flesh than on TV. Yes, thinks the Shadow Cabinet minister, there is more to life than politics.

If only he would act on it. For a few short weeks, he will read novels, relax by a pool and spend ten minutes at a time not thinking about work. But, on his return to SW1 in September, he will be sucked back into the Westminster whirlpool. There will be the details of devolution to denounce, the party conference speech to prepare, and — most humiliating of all — an almost Maoist act of self-criticism to write for *Whippersnapper* Hague, listing the Shadow minister's achievements and failures over the summer.

Can it really be worth it? What do Michael Howard, Peter Lilley, John Redwood, Stephen Dorrell, Sir Brian Mawhinney, and — for goodness' sake — Sir Norman Fowler, think they are doing? Most successful politicians would not be human if they did not harbour a secret desire to lead their party. But Sir Norman and Sir Brian Mawhinney know that they will never be leader. And Messrs Howard, Lilley, Redwood and Dorrell have now tried and failed to be. The best that they can hope for is a big ministerial job if and when the Tories regain power. Yet even if they do, is the prize of, say, the Chancellorship really worth five or, more likely, ten

years of toiling in Opposition? Opposition for them is a dreadful comedown. No more ministerial car; they have to wait for a bus or a Tube. That quietly efficient team of civil servants has been replaced by half a researcher and a dog, crammed into a chaotic House of Commons office. The *Today* programme and *Newsnight* no longer clamour for their presence. They are reduced to answering their own telephones. Worst of all, they can no longer make things happen.

Labour ministers were mocked for the amount of time and energy they expended preparing for Government. Actually the investment has paid off: only a few have been tripped up by their inexperience. Tory ministers, by contrast, spent no time preparing for Opposition: quite understandably,

since the psychology of politics demands that only victory can be countenanced.

Their wives, though, did think about Opposition, and a few secretly hoped it would materialise. For the first time in memory, they expected to see something of their husbands. They had sacrificed married and family life for ten, 14 or 18 years, putting up with the evenings alone and the tyranny of the red boxes at weekends, the early-morning phone calls and the late-night absences.

They had endured the vicarious hurt when their husbands were publicly abused. Some had gone out to work against their will to support the family and pay the school fees. All had subsumed themselves to the demands of their husbands' careers. But now what? The Shadow minis-

ters' salaries are half what they were in Government and they cannot supplement their income outside unless they return to the backbenches. The hours are only marginally less gruelling. The men are depressed and, if anything, require even more emotional support from their wives.

Before the election, it looked as if the Tories would be able to make capital out of Labour's inexperience. We all had visions of authoritative Shadow ministers towering over their pygmy counterparts at the dispatch box. Divested of power, though, the Tories' authority has shrunk. And many of the Labour ministers have quickly grown to fill their jobs.

At the same time, the election of William Hague as leader has

changed the terms of Conservative politics. In one generational leap, he has made the party's *ancien régime* look stale. While the old guard have remained loyal in order to demonstrate that their new young leader has the whole party behind him as he asserts his authority, the effort must sometimes have drained.

Now these men are probably doing as much harm as good to the Conservative cause.

Each time that Sir Brian Mawhinney pops up on television, another few million voters are reminded of why they did what they did on May 1. However good the Conservatives' arguments, they are tainted by the party's record and, particularly, by the arrogance with which many ministers behaved. The Tories lost for many reasons, but the scale of their defeat must have owed much to sheer dislike of the people in power.

It is harder for the electorate to summon up the same hatred for, say, Francis Maude, Iain Duncan-Smith or Michael Ancram. Can it be coincidence that these are the Shadow ministers who have performed best in the past few months? For the first time in their lives, they are now in Cabinet, albeit a Shadow version. They come fresh to their jobs, with more energy and enthusiasm than colleagues who are on the down escalator.

The time has come for former Cabinet ministers to bow out. They can afford to be proud of their achievements: they have come as close as possible to the pinnacle of politics. Now they should find a directorship or two, and spend more time with their families. They could return to the backbenches with honour, in the tradition of loyal, rather than embittered Tory elder statesmen. There they could seek the guidance of Kenneth Clarke, a man whose main attraction has always been that he knows there is more to life than politics. Take your wife to a jazz club. He might say. Make friends with your children again. Learn something new about the world. Above all, for heaven's sake, get a life!

Sheer gloss

EVEN the most hardened, Embassy-smoking Labour Party conference-goers will have seen nothing like the party to be held at this year's conference by the National Magazine Company. Terry Mansfield, the managing director, and the editors of *Cosmopolitan*, *Harpers & Queen*, *Good Housekeeping*, *She*, *Having a Baby*, *Country Living*, *House Beautiful*



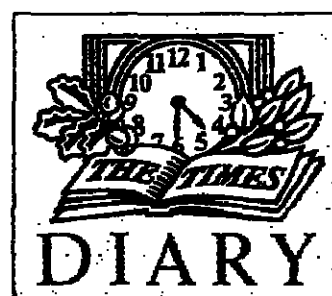
"I can't stand the heat. Let's go into the kitchen"

and *Zest* have booked the Royal Pavilion in Brighton for Thursday, October 2, for their party. No jellied eels or warm bitter here.

Nat. Mag's editors are on the whole a feisty bunch of women, more interested in modern sexual manners and wallpaper than the implications of Labour's first hundred days. Nonetheless, new Labour has cultivated them, sending its senior troops out to serve up homilies to the glossy readers. The most recent example was a cringeing interview given by David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, to *Good Housekeeping*. The hand of Eileen Wise, Norma Major's former press officer, now head of corporate communications for Nat Mag, can be detected in the politicisation of *House Beautiful*.

The fight for the better hotel rooms is already on. This lot know the power of a carefully timed tantrum, not least when faced with the Brighton speciality of rooms with flock paper, no mini-bar and polyester sheets.

Only one set of people ended up in prison as a result of the recent football match-fixing trial: the jurors. When they withdrew to



decide what to do with Grobelaar and the boys, the 12 had to go down to the former dungeons beneath Winchester Crown Court. It was the only room big enough and with powerful enough air-conditioning to accommodate the seven smokers on the jury alongside the non-smokers through their long deliberations.

Noble Deedes

TO the lengthy list of jobs performed by W.F. Deedes, 53, former Cabinet Minister, consigliere to the powerful and above all, reporter, must be added one more: enforcer. Deedes has been in Bosnia with Diana, Princess of Wales on her escape from Park Lane's Arab set. Aside from reporting on the Princess's visit, he has been sharing his knowledge of landmines.

Before dinner with Diana in the town of Travnik, however, Deedes saw it as his duty to lay down the law. Those few reporters invited were told to keep the questions to de-mining matters. Anyone bringing up Dodi would be in deep doodoo. The Princess, meanwhile, said of the press gang pursuing her love story: "I need them like I need a hole in the head."

Garden Pole

POLAND is going crazy for Dr Stefan Buczacki, the gardening tipster and the former host of *Radio*



Buczacki: big in Warsaw

Four's *Gardener's Question Time*. He is visiting his native country for the first time. His father, Tadeusz, a Polish fighter ace in WW2, escaped to Britain when Nazi tanks rolled into Warsaw in 1939 and married an English girl. Stefan was their first child.

Despite speaking only a few words of Polish, Buczacki is big news east of the Oder. "When he walked into the Polish Tourist Office," his producer Diana Stepson tells me, "he was immediately recognised by the staff. They said they had been waiting for him."

After meeting his late father's family, Buczacki is set to go on national television to promote a Polish translation of one of his gardening books. He will also be fielding questions, many of which will have to do with the recent floods which have washed away great quantities of topsoil.

Deference towards Mohamed Al Fayed seems beyond even his lowliest employees. Take Simon Morgan, captain of Fulham Football Club, one of the Egyptian's recent acquisitions. In his column in the programme for Saturday's season-opening game against Wrexham, he writes: "Did you see the lengths Princess Diana went to in a bid to get a free season ticket from the new chairman? Al Fayed, who sat in the stands rather than in the

bullet-proof directors' box, was consoled by seeing his team win 1-0. Morgan had better make sure the results keep coming to balance out the lese-majeste."

Foul play

NORTH of Bosnia's ethnic divide in Republika Srpska, British SFOR troops attempted to warm relations with the local community by staging a football tournament. Tensions have been high in the area after the SAS snatched operations on suspected Serb war criminals. Sadly their olive branch was grabbed, snapped and tossed back in their faces.

A side called "Ratko Mladic" after the locally lionised yet criminally indicted general, proceeded effortlessly to the final. There, as the crowd burst their lungs with chants of "Ratko Mladic", the team routed the Brits 7-1.

Eva on Enid

TOMORROW night sees the launch of *Who's Who in Enid*, a book by Eva Rice, 22, daughter of Sir Tim Rice, the lyricist and cricket enthusiast. Miss Rice, who recently left Bristol University, is working on her concordance to *Enid* while touring with her rock band,



Eva Rice: Blyton scholar

The *Replicant Saints*, a largely old Etonian outfit with a funk bent. A lot of their music will be playing in the background at tomorrow's launch.

Miss Rice put together her book without the aid of computers and CD-Roms, rather with the Blyton books themselves and a sharp pencil. "I have certainly not tackled Noddy's sexual habits or anything like that," she says. "Most of those theories were made up by people who were just jealous of Blyton when she was alive."

P-H-S

Stella 101.30



NORTH AND SOUTH

John Hume deserves honour, but not the Presidency

Like Julius Caesar resisting the clamour that he be crowned Emperor, Ireland's most popular politician is agonising about whether he should accept elevation by acclamation. John Hume, MP for Foyle, Northern Ireland MEP, leader of Ulster's Social Democratic and Labour Party, architect of the peace process and champion of Londonderry is weighing whether he should stand for the Presidency of Ireland. Should he decide to contest the election it would be no contest.

The moral stature he is accorded in the Republic, for the effort he has devoted to peace, dwarfs most potential rivals. Ireland's main parties would be unlikely to stand in his way and he would enjoy the blessing of the White House. The office, symbolic rather than executive, would provide a fitting autumnal role for an elder statesman. Mr Hume, however, would be wrong to assume that what is his for the taking should be grasped. His election as President of Ireland would be a significant prize but it would imperil a greater — the peace he has striven so hard to secure.

The election of Mr Hume, a United Kingdom citizen, as the Head of State of the Irish Republic would do nothing to calm Unionist fears about the direction of the peace process. Mr Hume's candidacy will be seen by Unionists as another attempt to blur the border and establish in the world's eyes that the people of Northern Ireland are part of the Republic and not, as most of its citizens are glad to affirm, part of the United Kingdom. His election would be seen as a physical expression of the territorial claim Dublin makes to Northern Ireland in its constitution, a claim Unionists understandably consider anachronistic irreverence.

For Mr Hume even to consider standing betrays a mind-set that sees Ulster and the Republic as a seamless state, certainly in an ideal future if not in the present imperfect. Mr Hume, and his party, have every right to argue that case within the UK, but to do so

from the presidential seat in Phoenix Park would be seen by Unionists as an aggrandising gesture. For a politician who has done so much in Londonderry to try to meet Unionist concerns it would be a heavy-booted and backwards step.

Mr Hume's elevation would allow a younger leadership to take command of the SDLP and, potentially, move closer to liberal Unionism. If that were to happen, then Ulster's politics would gain. But it is still unlikely. Given the hold Mr Hume has had over his party for so long, while so often in Washington or Strasbourg, it is hard to see his influence significantly waning were he to be sitting in state in Dublin. There is another, practical, consideration. A by-election in Mr Hume's constituency of Foyle would give Sinn Féin another opportunity to grandstand and, if the republicans won, the party would overtake the SDLP in the number of MPs it boasted. Mr Hume should not risk yielding his party's position as the leading voice of northern nationalism for the sake of southern comforts.

Choosing a worthy successor to Mary Robinson will be difficult. It is easy to see why John Hume, her worthy equal in easy humanity and liberal spirit, should seem appropriate. Mrs Robinson was, however, uniquely qualified as President to reassure Unionists that Dublin was interested in co-operation with Ulster, not eventual condominium. Married to a Protestant and an opponent of the Anglo-Irish Agreement, on impeccably democratic grounds, she was the perfect figurehead for a Republic which wanted to put assertive republicanism behind it. Mrs Robinson embodied a new Ireland which wanted to become at ease with itself, within its own borders. Modern Ireland, and moderates everywhere, have good reason to respect John Hume but compelling reasons to look elsewhere, among the Republic's rising generation, for a new President.

FLOWERS OF EVIL

Tough action is needed to curb Taliban's deadly export

All over the killing hills of Afghanistan, where thousands have died in 18 years of civil war and thousands more have been maimed by millions of buried landmines, a deadly harvest is now being gathered. Poppies, deceptively beautiful flowers of evil, are being gathered to fuel Afghanistan's booming opium trade and, incidentally, to fund the war-chest of the Taliban, the country's Islamic rulers. Yet if promises to the United Nations are to be believed, the poppy harvest may soon dwindle. The Taliban leadership is preparing an edict to declare that opium cultivation is a violation of Islamic law, and will co-operate with UN officials in reducing the acreage under cultivation.

Such an assurance would be good news indeed. Drugs are being smuggled into Europe from Afghanistan in huge quantities. The temptation for Afghans to reap the rich harvest is almost irresistible. Their country has been laid waste, their villages and fields ruined, their families left on the brink of starvation. As the state has collapsed, so too has the rule of law. Warlords have plundered the countryside to buy arms; farmers, burdened with new taxes, are desperate for cash; and middlemen in Pakistan and the former Soviet Union are all too eager to encourage the lucrative trade in raw opium.

Stopping the flow of drugs will be difficult and expensive. The UN, working with drug officials from Europe and America, the principal opium markets, has a crop substitution programme that offers cash incentives to farmers replacing drug plants

with legitimate crops. Officials know that they must move carefully: blanket prohibitions enforced by crop burning or spraying could simply raise the opium price and encourage more furtive production in inaccessible regions. And powerful interests, including criminal gangs, tribal chieftains and weapons smugglers, would combine to defeat any production ban were their source of cash suddenly to dry up.

Religion, however, holds powerful sway. In a country where the name of Islam has been invoked to regulate every aspect of daily life, a clerical decree is more powerful than any secular command. Drug cultivation and abuse is contrary to the precepts of Islam. Why then has there been only silence from Afghanistan's current rulers? The answer is obvious: the puritan zealots preach ideals but practise hypocrisy. They depend on the drugs trade for weapons, money and authority. Their eyes may be inflamed by the sight of emancipated women; but they are blind to the drugs that kill humans in their thousands overseas.

For this reason, UN claims that it has secured an assurance of official help in reducing poppy cultivation must be treated sceptically. The Americans, who appear more interested in the Taliban's strategic damage to Iran than in opposing clerical excesses, have reacted with unseemly nonchalance to the opium trade. The pressure on the Taliban to curb the drug exports must be as brutal and multifaceted as it is on the corrupt authorities in Latin America. Only then will the deadly flowers wilt on Afghanistan's hills.

MENDING THE SKY

Schemes to seal the ozone hole are attractive but fatuous

Solving the ozone problem might seem to be simply a matter of redistribution. There is too little of it high in the stratosphere and too much lower down in the troposphere. Up high, it has been eroded by chlorofluorocarbons, the chemicals used in refrigerators, creating the ozone hole over Antarctica and thinning ozone elsewhere. Down low, where human beings live, pollutants from motor vehicles mix in the sunshine to create excessive amounts of ozone, generating summer smog. All we need to do, a simple man might argue, is to devise a way of transporting low-level ozone high into the stratosphere where it will cease to be a menace and become a positive boon. The ozone hole will be repaired and the problem of photochemical smog solved at a single stroke.

Freddy Heineken, a Dutch beer baron, has been thinking along similar lines. Seeking to reach parts of the atmosphere that other brewers cannot, he has called for an international effort to repair the ozone hole, by methods hardly more sophisticated than the one outlined above. Now retired from management of the brewery, Mr Heineken thinks that we should either encourage every one of the world's 55,000 daily commercial flights to spray 1,000 litres of negatively-charged water into the atmosphere, or adopt a Russian Star Wars contraption that would fire microwaves into the atmosphere.

Studies by a retired professor sponsored by Mr Heineken suggest that these methods might work, but would cost about two billion dollars. Half a million dollars is

needed for field trials to establish feasibility. Mr Heineken's flights of fancy join a series of hairbrained schemes for global engineering put forward over the past decade. A common feature is the aim of converting the active chlorine atoms which destroy ozone into chlorine ions, which do not. But the scale of the problem is vast, and it is a long way up. A total of 3.6 million tons of chlorine would need to be transformed, at a height far above that of normal flight paths. More important are the uncertainties attending any massive exercise in atmospheric chemistry. Having stumbled into the problem through ignorance of the way in which the atmosphere works, it would be fatuous and all too easy to create new problems while trying to correct it.

In any case, a solution to the ozone problem is already in place. True, the Montreal Protocol and its successors which began the process of eliminating chlorofluorocarbons lack the glamour of an Apollo-style ozone repair campaign, but they have already begun to have measurable effects. Last year, for the first time, scientists measured a decline in the quantities of the ozone-eating chemicals in the lower atmosphere. Within a few years, this should be repeated in the stratosphere, and then normal stratospheric processes can begin the slow job of repairing the ozone shield. It may take until the middle of the next century to complete a period which mankind could usefully spend ruing the ignorance of atmospheric chemistry that led to the ozone hole in the first place.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Gap-year students and tuition fees

From Mr John T. Hall

Sir, The possible imposition of tuition fees on 1998 deferred-entry students [reports and leading article, August 7; report, August 8] would interfere with something more fundamental than statute law: it would override their private law rights and do so retrospectively.

Any requirement by government to pay fees which formed no part of the student's contract with the university when the offer of a deferred place was accepted through the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service would be unfair, inequitable and incompatible with other legislation dealing with consumer rights. I hope that the Government will have the good sense to act fairly and swiftly to dispel the growing alarm.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN T. HALL
(Head, Education Law Department),
Everheds (solicitors),
Senator House,
85 Queen Victoria Street, EC4A
August 7.

From the Principal of the Sixth
Form College, Farnborough

Sir, The inevitability of students and parents contributing to university tuition fees is, I think, generally regretted but acknowledged. However, the Government must not permit confusion and lack of clarity to further complicate the 1997 post-A-level scramble for higher education places: it is already a stressful enough time for all concerned.

Whether or not a firm decision is taken to introduce tuition charges for the A-level class of 1998, may I suggest that an assurance be given immediately to all students who matriculate for university entrance by August 1997 that tuition fees will be remitted, provided that they begin their degree programme by October 1998?

This would reduce the likelihood of students leaving into inappropriate courses to beat a possibly imaginary deadline, and it would permit many to benefit without financial penalty from the generally invaluable experience of the gap year they have been planning for 1997-98.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN J. GUY,
Principal,
The Sixth Form College,
Barnard Avenue,
Farnborough, Hampshire,
August 7.

From Miss Elizabeth Hastings

Sir, I am a second-year undergraduate at the University of Birmingham. When I graduate I wish to study for a PGCE (Postgraduate Certificate of Education) and become a teacher. It is people like me who will be the next generation of teachers, doctors and nurses, etc.

Why should we have to pay for studying for three years (longer in the case of medical students) in order to maintain the social fabric of the country? Will we not be more than putting back into society, for at least 40 years, what we will take out of it for about three? We shall not be exempt from income tax: so must we pay twice for the "privilege" of educating our children and working 80-hour weeks — some of us to save people's lives?

We are privileged to be able to study in higher education: but, despite popular belief, we work extremely hard to get there, extremely hard whilst we are there and extremely hard when we leave to secure a job. Wishing to further our career prospects in today's capitalist society should not be a punishable offence.

Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH HASTINGS,
5 Brue Avenue,
Bristol, Somerset,
August 7.

Murder of pastor

From the General Secretary of the
British Evangelical Council

Sir, Thank you for your report (August 7) of the tragic murder in Hungary of Pastor Michael Pollard while he and his wife were returning from an aid mission to Romania. The story had a double impact.

Many were enabled to pray for the family and the church at Shipley, West Yorkshire, in their devastating loss — surely our first response to such news. Secondly, it gave us a glimpse of genuine evangelical Christianity instead of the extremist worship styles so beloved by the media.

Thirty years of tireless concern for spreading the Word and helping others tragically culminated in the ultimate sacrifice. That reminded me of someone else — a comparison which I believe Michael Pollard would not have found unwelcome.

Yours gratefully,
ALAN F. GIBSON,
General Secretary,
British Evangelical Council,
Everheds (solicitors),
St Albans, Hertfordshire,
becoffice@aol.com
August 8.

Letters that are intended
for publication should carry a
daytime telephone number. They
may be sent to a fax number —
0171-782 5046.
e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

The link between public school and Army promotion

From Mr Daniel Oxberry

Sir, To wish the Army to be and to act like society as a whole might appear a worthy aim (letters, August 7). However, we require our soldiers to do intolerable things in appalling conditions which are simply unacceptable to the vast majority. Their willingness to do so makes them different, separate from the rest of us and the better army for it.

Perhaps Major Eric Joyce, who calls in question the Army's social structures (report, August 4), would like to accompany me to my regimental reunion next autumn. I shall be happy to introduce him there to my former company sergeant-major, now a retired lieutenant-colonel, my former company clerk whom I knew as a corporal and is now a prosperous retired major, and his friend who was a private in the orderly room, now a retired captain. I shall shortly be visiting one of my oldest friends who did not attend public school, began as a private and is now still serving as a full colonel.

Thirty-three years ago, when I joined my splendid county regiment, it did not matter where you had been to school, who your father was or how much money you had. What mattered was that you accepted and respected the norms and values of that excellent organisation, which had evolved over the previous 300 years and bore little resemblance to any one part of civilian society, past or present. That was its charm, and it remains so.

Yours faithfully,
DANIEL OXBERRY,
3 Foxmore Street, SW11,
August 7.

From Mr Charles Ross

Sir, Major General P. M. Davies (letter, August 7) seeks to contradict

Major Eric Joyce's criticism of "blatant social selection in the Army" by describing the rigorous selection procedures he experienced throughout his long career from his first Unit Selection Board.

He underestimates one point: had he not been to Charterhouse or a similar public school he would have had a minimal chance of passing that first Unit Selection Board.

Major Joyce is completely correct. His only error is to think the class structure and its barriers are limited to the Army — it is endemic in all walks of life, not least among the financial institutions.

The education at public schools is usually excellent; but the "us and them" that it sustains is a weakness which limits our capacity to compete and succeed in an ever-more egalitarian world.

Yours sincerely,
CHARLES ROSS
(National Service Lieutenant, RA,
1954-56),
Mulberry House,
8 Mount Road,
Lansdown, Bath,
August 7.

Leading from the top

From Lieutenant-Colonel
D. P. Earlam

Sir, I think it is entirely appropriate that we should be debating at this time the place where our senior Army officers are educated. After all we do now have the first public school Prime Minister since 1964.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
DAVID EARLAM,
Sylvan House,
Worthgate Place, Canterbury, Kent,
August 8.

'Bards of the byrger'

From Ms Jan Morris

Sir, Simon Jenkins's article about Wales, "The bards of the byrger" (August 6), has, of course, its fair share of errors — what London article about Wales hasn't? — but its real fault is that it is out of date.

By concentrating upon old English preoccupations like Welsh north-south differences, language subsidies and the laughable side of the Eisteddfod Genedlaethol, it fails to recognise that the most progressive elements in Wales, whether Welsh-speaking or not, are trying to reinvent their country, to make of it a truly bilingual, modern, confident and happy nation as eager for the European future as it is proud of the Celtic past.

The creation of a Welsh assembly will be a vital step in that process and is surely as desirable for the United Kingdom, and for Europe as a whole, as it is for Wales itself.

Yours faithfully,
JAN MORRIS,
Trefan Morrys,
Llanystumdwy, Gwynedd,
August 6.

From Sir Wyn Roberts

Sir, When a columnist bearing the noble name of Jenkins (Simon) writes so disparagingly about the National Eisteddfod of Wales, I despair of the doyens of our metropolitan newspaper culture.

Nothing sacred?

From Mr Kevin J. Parkinson

Sir, Mr Anthony Bosanquet (letter, July 25; see also letters, August 1, 4) wonders whether the marvellous Psalm 42: "As pants the hart for cooling streams, when heated in the chase" is destined to join the ranks of the politically incorrect. In Australia, it has. The Australian hymn book gives it: "As pants the hart for cooling streams, in parched and barren ways."

Our political correctness does not finish there. The carol *God rest ye merry, gentlemen* has become *God rest you merry, people all*.

No, Mr Bosanquet, nothing is sacred.

Yours faithfully,
K. J. PARKINSON,
10 Porter Terrace,
Rostrevor 5073,
South Australia,
August 4.

Montserrat crisis

From the Parliamentary Under-
Secretary of State, Foreign
and Commonwealth Office

Sir, Your information regarding the Governor of Montserrat (Diary, August 1) is grossly inaccurate.

Whatever journalists and their informants in the UK may say, the fact is that the Governor of Montserrat, Mr Frank Savage, has been widely praised by the leaders of the Montserratian community on the island for the dedicated and responsible way in which he has reacted to the volcanic crisis on the island.

Not only has Mr Savage pressed constantly for assistance for the islanders, but he has shared in their sufferings, including moving house seven times in the past two years. In the last year, he and his family have lived in two rooms tacked on to temporary Government offices on the island.

Yours sincerely,
ELIZABETH SYMONS,
Foreign and Commonwealth
Office, SW1A 2AH,
August 5.

From Warrant Officer Terry Hancill
(retd)

Sir, Your report highlights the anachronistic and archaic two-class system which has operated in the Army for generations. But the assertion by "a former member of the Army Board" that "officers are different from soldiers" no longer applies. There is often discussion and opinion-seeking by both parties.

Unfortunately the officer has little experience of life on the "shop floor", whereas senior police officers, for example, have spent some invaluable time gaining experience on the beat before entering the "fast-track" promotion system.

Yours truly,
TERRY HANCILL
(Chief Clerk, Royal Army
Ordnance Corps, TA 1980-92),
6 Hamilton Drive,
Ormskirk, Lancashire.

From Mrs Caroline Yuill

Sir, In 1998 my grandfather, Air Vice-Marshal Sir George Laing, one of 13 children of an Aberdeenshire farmer, won a scholarship to Fettes School, but his family could not afford the daily return fare.

In 1904, on completion of his state education, he joined the Gordon Highlanders and was quickly promoted to sergeant. He applied for further promotion four times, each time a new excuse being made to turn down the application.

Eventually, in 1912, he joined the Royal Flying Corps, which appears to have been more open-minded in its promotion policy.

Yours faithfully,
CAROLINE YUILL,
16 Cotnam Road South, Bristol,
pr52@btinternet.com
August 5.

Role for 'nit nurse'

From the General Secretary of
the Royal College of Nursing

Sir, There is a wider lesson to be learnt from the debate in your letters page (August 8) about whether so-called "nit nurses" have a role.

School nurses are there to provide health care and advice to children on a range of issues from asthma to sex. Children often have difficulty in reaching other health services, such as GPs, without the help of an adult. School nurses are often the only way of getting help on matters that concern them.

Unfortunately, the myth that they are there to deal only with head lice and are therefore dispensable has unfortunate consequences: school nurse numbers have been cut in recent years.

Yours sincerely,
CHRISTINE HANCOCK,
General Secretary,
Royal College of Nursing,
20 Cavendish Square, WI.

From Mr John Thirlwell

Sir, At times of infestation my son's prep school headmaster would write to parents with the stern injunction: "The enemy of the head louse is the fine-toothed comb."

It seemed to work. Perhaps a free supply of combs would be a more cost-effective solution.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN THIRLWELL,
76 Little Bushey Lane,
Bushey, Hertfordshire,
August 8.

Back to basics

From Councillor W. H. Isley

Sir, It is true that the likes of royal mistresses and other fashionably beautiful people have persuaded the Government to quash the anti-hunting Bill (Diary, August 4), it surely indicates that these Johnny-come-latelies have more influence with Labour ministers than the combined efforts of public opinion and the overwhelming mass of Labour Party membership.

In which case might I suggest that these new-found friends of Labour show their appreciation by temporarily forsaking their hunt balls, polo matches and champagne soirees and doing a bit of door-knocking at the next general election? It seems to me that after spending over half a century pounding the pavements in the Harlepool constituency I might as well put my feet up as I've clearly been wasting my time.

Yours faithfully,
BILL ISLEY,
54 Oval Grange,
Hartlepool, Durham,
August 6.

Treasure trove

From Mr Simon Martin

Sir, I am sure that, despite the challenges endured at Eton by Guy Walters ("Damp toast, gloom and Rupert's café", August 8), he will be surprised by one particular meal I ate when I was at Westminster School in the late 1980s. I still have fond memories of the whole hard-boiled egg I found in the bread and butter pudding one lunchtime.

Yours faithfully,
SIMON MARTIN,
14 Perham Road, W14,
August 8.

OBITUARIES

PROFESSOR JURGEN KUCZINSKI

Professor Jürgen Kuczinski, German Communist historian, died on August 6 aged 92. He was born on September 19, 1904.

Jürgen Kuczinski was a rounded and witty figure who stood out among East Germany's palid Communist intelligentsia. Part of the grand-bourgeois Jewish social and academic world which was largely destroyed by the post-1933 emigration and the Holocaust, he was a Marxist economic historian and popular essayist who rebelled against the intellectual constraints and taboos of the system he embraced.

He died as he had lived, believing that the eventual triumph of socialism was "unavoidable", although he admitted with characteristic nonchalance after the downfall of the Soviet Union that "the timetable appears to have altered somewhat". It was a standing joke, enjoyed by himself, that he had spent his whole life predicting the imminent crisis of capitalism.

Kuczinski never offered resistance to the East Germany where he lived from 1950, choosing instead to walk a tightrope between freedom of expression — for which he lobbied the governments of Walter Ulbricht and Erich Honecker without much success — and religious adherence to Marxism-Leninism. He would joke that he had "as many Party disciplinary procedures behind him as Party goals", but the Communist Party was his polar star and he remained a leading member of the reformed Party of Democratic Socialism, the successor to East Germany's ruling Socialist Unity Party.

The child of cosmopolitan Communist parents — his father René Kuczinski taught statistics for a time at the London School of Economics, he graduated precociously from the universities of Heidelberg and Erlangen and gained his doctorate at the age of 21, publishing his first book, *Back to Marx*, a year later. After two years research at the Brookings Institute in Washington DC he worked for the American Federation of Labor and on Wall Street, where he learnt to play the stock market with some acumen. It was not the last time that he was to exploit his affinity with the capitalist world to aid the Communist cause.

He returned to Germany to edit the *Rote Fahne*, the newspaper of the Communist Party of Germany (KPD), but



emigrated to London in 1936, fleeing the National Socialists. By this time, he had published 13 books on economic history. His 40-volume *History of the Working Classes in Germany* was finally completed in the mid-1980s. His academic output also included sociological studies of German and French literature, a reappraisal of Max Weber and the more accessible *Everyday History of the German People*, which ran to a mere five volumes. His prodigious output was envied and mocked by his academic peers. "Most people read a thousand books and then write one," remarked a friend. "JK does it the other way round."

A leading figure in the Communist-Jewish milieu of north London during the emigration from Germany, he set up a branch of the Free German Youth in Hampstead. He earned his living by managing the financial affairs of a wealthy friend in return for a share of the profits, which he

also used to help fund the KPD in exile. Making his way into elevated left-wing circles, he became a friend of Aneurin Bevan, Cecil Day-Lewis and Lillian Bowen-Lyon, the Queen Mother's cousin.

It was during this time that he produced an unusual piece of covert Communist propaganda in the form of a book entitled *Hitler and the British Empire* — an attempt to prod Britain into declaring war on Germany. Written under the pseudonym James Turner, it was a near-flawless imitation of British Establishment style and logic. He used the same pseudonym to pursue Marxist arguments in the columns of *Labour Weekly*. Never at a loss for influential friends, he was rescued from internment in Devon apparently by high-level American intervention.

He dined frequently in Cambridge colleges, where he cultivated Maynard Keynes and Joan Robinson.

His sister, Ruth Werner, was also present in Britain at

the time, acting as an agent for Soviet military intelligence under the codename Sonya. It was Kuczinski — probably acting on the orders of the Soviets, although he always denied it — who introduced her to the atomic scientist Klaus Fuchs. Werner became the courier for Fuchs and it was via her that the blueprint of the atom bomb developed at Harwell was passed to Moscow.

In 1944, Kuczinski was given a post in the American Strategic Bombing Survey under Kenneth Galbraith. Later, he admitted that he had passed information gleaned through his contacts with American intelligence to the Soviets.

By 1945, when he returned to the family home in the American zone of Berlin, Washington had become aware of his real loyalties and took symbolic revenge by cutting off his telephone. In 1950, Walter Ulbricht, the first East German leader, bade him

move to the East, luring him with a house in Weissensee, large enough to accommodate his extensive personal library, and the promise of an economics portfolio in the Government. The timing of this move was almost certainly linked to the arrest in Britain of Fuchs, who the Soviets feared would incriminate Kuczinski.

Kuczinski became a delegate of the Volkskammer, but by 1958 had been ousted from East German political life in the purge of Party members who had spent the Nazi years in Western emigration.

When Erich Honecker succeeded Ulbricht in 1971 and lifted some of the Stalinist restrictions on East German intellectual life, Kuczinski cultivated his new master and manoeuvred to become an advisor to the intellectually insecure new head of state. As a result of this contact (which he nourished to the point of sycophancy), he was allowed in 1982 to publish the anthology *Dialogue with my Great-Grandson*, the first layman's work in East Germany to discuss the impact on socialism of Stalin's crimes and criticise the economic centralism of the Soviet system. It was then withdrawn on the orders of the propaganda chief Konrad Naumann, who deemed it "counter-revolutionary". Later, after much wheedling from Kuczinski, Honecker overruled the ban and the book was published in 13 editions, securing its author a reputation as a forerunner of President Gorbachev's reforms.

Kuczinski's home and library in Weissensee were always open to researchers and visitors, and he gaily ignored instructions to register his contacts with potential ideological enemies, believing that it was more useful to argue with them. He gave tutorials rather than interviews and was a rare proponent of open debate in the ideologically fiefdom of the East German press of the 1980s.

After the collapse of both East Germany and the Soviet Union, he returned to his earlier themes in a book entitled *Continued Dialogue with my Great-Grandson*. He blithely admitted that his prognosis that socialist societies could recover from Stalinism had been wrong. "I was guilty of miserable political stupidity," he wrote. "With my experience of the world and my intelligence, I should not have fallen into this trap!"

He was married to Marguerite Steinfeld, who predeceased him. They had two sons and a daughter.

GUS BRITTON

Gus Britton, MBE, former Assistant Director of the Royal Navy Submarine Museum, died on July 21 aged 74. He was born on September 9, 1922.

A FORMER Royal Navy signalman and submariner, Gus Britton was internationally renowned for his encyclopaedic knowledge of the Submarine Service and was closely involved in the founding of the Royal Navy Submarine Museum at Gosport. He also edited himself strenuously on behalf of a number of servicemen's charities, and latterly devoted his life to the Submarine Old Comrades Association.

At the same time he fostered close links with surviving members of German U-boat crews, and was made a member of the U-616 Association, run by the crew of a U-boat which was narrowly missed by a salvo of torpedoes fired by the submarine *Upprour*, in which Britton served during the war.

Ernest Charles Britton was born at Eastney, Hampshire, within sight of the Royal Marine Barracks. His father had served as a chief petty officer in the light cruiser *Caroline* during the Battle of Jutland, but later volunteered for submarines.

Britton was sent to the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook, at the age of 11. From there he went to the Boys' Training Establishment *HMS Ganges*. In 1938, it was here that he acquired the nickname "Gus",

after a comic strip character called Gus the Ancient Briton, whom he resembled in more than name. At *HMS Ganges* he developed into a Royal Navy champion swimmer and water polo player, and at one time held the Navy records for the backstroke and 440 yards freestyle.

He was serving in the battleship *Nelson* on the day the Second World War broke out, but he decided in March 1941 to follow his father and volunteer for service in submarines. He went on to carry out 17 operational patrols in *Tribune* and *Upprour*, and although he was depth-charged on a number of occasions, he never regretted his decision to volunteer.

After the war he served in the submarines *Tapir*, *Acheron*, *Seascope* and *Truculent*, the last of which he left shortly before she was run down and sunk by a Swedish freighter in the Thames Estuary, with great loss of life. In January 1950, many of his friends perished in the disaster. After a number of other submarine appointments he retired from the Royal Navy in 1953.

He then tried a variety of jobs, including a spell as a deck-hand during an unsuccessful expedition to recover Armada gold in the waters off Tobermory on the Isle of Mull. This expedition was headed by Commander Buster Crabbe, who was in 1950 to lose his life in what was probably a bungled covert secret service mission to obtain technical information about the Russian cruiser *Oruzhonikidsa*, then

berthed in Portsmouth harbour after bringing the Soviet leaders Nikolai Bulganin and Nikita Khrushchev on a state visit to Britain.

In 1957 he joined the City of London Royal Marine Reserve special boat section, qualifying as a parachutist. Some of the happiest times of his life were spent as a Red Coat at Butlins at Clacton, where he was chief lifeguard and a favourite of Sir Billy Butlin.

Throughout this period he maintained his interest in naval and military history, becoming involved in the embryonic Royal Navy Submarine Museum at Gosport in the late 1960s. Struck by wanderlust once more, he took up a position as the swimming instructor at the Ecole Thérèse d'Avila, a French convent school in Lille, in northern France, a post he held for ten years.

He returned to England when his mother's health began to fail, and became assistant director of the Submarine Museum. He retired formally in 1972, but remained as a full-time researcher.

At the age of 65, he swam from Gosport to the Isle of Wight and back — a five-hour marathon — to raise money for the Submarine Old Comrades Association, and he also undertook several sponsored parachute jumps to raise money for the Submarine Memorial Trust, the Erskine Hospital for ex-servicemen and the North Russia Club. He was appointed MBE for his charity work last year. He never married.



Gus Britton (left, with binoculars)

DOREEN INGRAMS

Doreen Ingrams, writer on the Arab world, died on July 25 aged 91. She was born on January 24, 1906.

A WOMAN of great vitality, Doreen Ingrams was a noted British authority on the Arab world, and one of the founders of the Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding. She combined passion with a hatred of injustice. Her studies concentrated on socio-economic conditions in southern Arabia, and especially on the position of women there.

Doreen Constance Ingrams was the daughter of a barrister, the Liberal MP Edward Short, former Chief Secretary for Ireland and subsequently Home Secretary under Lloyd George. Although she attended Glendower School, and had a governess, she was to a large extent self-educated. During a stay in Dublin, she became a supporter of Home Rule, and became increasingly aware of social injustice. She was moved by the ideals of the Russian Revolution, but also by its human cost. Although, like most young

girls of the time, brought up with no other aim but marriage in view, she determined on a career. At the age of 18, she joined the company of the famous actor-manager Forbes Robertson.

She was taken under the wing of his Anglo-Indian leading lady, and, noticing how she was treated by others outside the company, became sensitive for the first time to racial prejudice. In six years in the theatre (during which she formed a friendship with Peggy Ashcroft that was to be lifelong), Ingrams played leading Shakespearean roles, and travelled around Britain and Ireland, staying in theatrical digs. She saw conditions in miners' homes, and discovered that in the boarding-houses of the day she could usually have her room for the night free if she showed live bed-bugs to the landlady.

Her meeting with Harold Ingrams, a colonial officer on leave from Mauritius, proved a turning point in her life. He was expecting to travel to Ethiopia, and the thought of a visit to so exotic an African country added glamour to his proposal of marriage. They were married in 1930.

The Addis Ababa venture having failed, Ingrams took his wife back to Mauritius later the same year. She found British colonial life there limiting, but developed an interest in the island's mix of cultures. She translated Viscount de Vaux's 18th-century history of Mauritius, and studied classical Arabic.

In 1934 her husband's career took them to southern Arabia, where he served as a political officer. Growing impatient with his unproductive life in Aden, he persuaded the Resident to allow him to study the British Protectorate of the Hadhramaut. The couple then toured the area by donkey and camel, and Harold wrote a detailed *Report on the Social, Economic and Political Conditions of Hadhramaut* — which owed much to his wife. She undertook part of the research and, being free to visit harems, was able to write extensively on women's lives.

At the invitation of the Sultan, the couple were later transferred to Mukalla, where Harold Ingrams became the first Resident Adviser. Doreen made contact with women in many parts of the country, then suffering from innumera-

ble feuds. During conversations on the benefits of peace, they urged her to persuade their menfolk to accept the truce then under discussion.

The establishment of peace enabled her to assist in the country's development, especially in education and health. She founded the first Bedouin Girls' School, and a school for the blind. After the famine of 1943-44, she set up a hospital and a children's village for orphans of agricultural labourers. She accompanied her husband on a visit to Ethiopia, and met Empress Menen.

Returning to England in 1944, she lectured on Hadhramaut and the lives of Arab women for the Central Office of Information. Her *Survey of Social and Economic Conditions in the Aden Protectorate* was published in 1949.

In 1956 she joined the BBC Arabic Service, taking charge of talks and magazine programmes. Her duty tours took her around the Arab world, including the Hadhramaut, where she visited some of the institutions she had founded two decades earlier.

Although the wife of a colonial official, she supported the principle of self-determina-

tion. She was an active opponent of apartheid. She admired Gamal Abdel Nasser for giving the Arab world a sense of pride, was shocked by the Anglo-French intervention at the time of Suez in 1956, and deplored the treatment of the Palestinians, deprived of their lands and rights. After her retirement in 1968, she continued her writing, and was active in organisations such as the United Nations Association and Amnesty International. She became a patron of Friends of Hadhramaut.

She was a frequent speaker on the Arab world, and her publications included *A Time in Arabia* (1970), *Palestine Papers 1917-1922: Seeds of Conflict* (1972), and the 16-volume *Records of Yemen 1798-1960*, which she co-edited with her daughter Leila in 1993.

Her awards included the Lawrence of Arabia medal of the Royal Society for Asian Affairs (1953), the gold medal of the Royal Geographical Society (1940), and the Sir Richard Burton medal of the Royal Asiatic Society (1993).

Her husband died in 1973, and she is survived by her two daughters.



Church news

Appointments

The Rev Martin Adams, Vicar, Docking, The Bichams, Stanhoe and Sedgford (Norwich); to be Vicar, St Luke Orrell (Liverpool).
The Rev Philip Auden, part-time Chaplain, Evesham Community Hospital (Worcester); to be Priest-in-Charge, Fawcett w Dorsetington and Honeybourne (Gloucester).
The Rev Bob Bailey, Chaplain, RAF Lyneham, and Vicar, Lyneham w Bradenstoke (Salisbury); to be also Rural Dean of Calne Deanery (same diocese).
The Rev Stuart Baker, Curate, Whitchurch (Bristol); to be Rector, Brighthelm, Dellingdon, Mountfield and Netherfield (Chichester).
The Rev Catherine Bell, Associate Vicar, St Jude's, Southport (Portsmouth); to be Chaplain, Luton University, and Assistant Curate, St Mary, Luton (St Albans).
Canon Gary Bewick, North Thames Area and UK Regional Secretary for South American Missionary Society (St Albans); to be Rector, Great Smeaton w Appleton Wiske and Birkby and Danby Wiske w Hutton Bonville (Ripon).

The Rev Christine Carter, NSM, Blackburn The Saviour; to be part-time Health Care Chaplain, Whiston Hospital (Liverpool).
The Rev Bernard Cave-Browne-Cave, Chaplain, HM Prison Service Chaplaincy (Southwark); to be Chaplain, HM The Weare Prison, Portland (Salisbury).
Canon Christopher Chapman, Priest-in-Charge, Luddon, Sissland w Hales and Heddingham and Rural Dean of Luddon (Norwich); to be also Priest-in-Charge, Chedgrave w Hardley and Langley (same diocese).
The Rev Charles Cotton, Assistant Curate, All Saints w Holy Trinity, Wandsworth (Southwark); to be Vicar, St James, Clapham (same diocese).
The Rev Christopher Davey, Assistant Curate, St John, Belle Isle (Ripon); to be Assistant Curate, Hendon St Albans with special responsibility, Inc St Augustine, Grahame Park (London).
The Rev Arthur Dawson, Rector,

Hockering, Honingham, East Tuddenham and North Tuddenham (Norwich); to be Dean of Caracas (Venezuela (ECUSA)).
The Rev Kevin Dunne, Priest-in-Charge, Oxclose (Durham); to be also Rural Dean of Chester le Street (same diocese).
The Rev Anne Hedges, Priest-in-Charge, Garboldisham w Blo Norton, Riddlesworth, Brettenham and Rushford (Norwich); to be Priest-in-Charge, Guithorpe (new benefice comprising the parishes of Blo Norton, Garboldisham, Kemninghall and Riddlesworth w Gosthorpe and Knettishall) (same diocese).
The Rev Dr Tim Gaden, Curate, Battersea St Mary (Southwark); to be Vicar, same benefice.
The Rev Judith Hubbard-Jones, part-time Vice Principal, West of England Ministerial Training Course, and NSM Assistant Curate, Leominster Team Ministry (Hereford); to be Chaplain and Visitors Officer, Gloucester Cathedral (Gloucester).

The Rev Hilary Jowett, formerly Assistant Curate, St Mark's, Broomhill (Sheffield); to be Assistant Curate, Mosborough (same diocese).

Retirements & resignations
The Rev Kenneth Coombe, Vicar, Elburton (Exeter) to retire September 30.

The Rev David Dermott, Rector, Hinderswell w Ruxby (York) to retire February 28, 1998.

The Rev John Dykes, Rector, Heanton Punchardon w Marwood (Exeter) to retire August 31.

Canon John Forryatt, Vicar, Deorhurst and Apperley w Rurhampton and Chaceley, and Honorary Canon of Gloucester Cathedral, to retire October 31.

The Rev Michael Homewood, Rector, South Molton Team (Exeter) to retire July 31.

The Rev Antony Pinches, Vicar, Shipway Collaton (Exeter) to retire September 30.

PARLIAMENT BILL PASSED. AN HISTORIC DEBATE.

After an historic debate, in the course of which speeches were made by Lord Morley, Lord Rosebery, and Lord Curzon, the House of Lords last night passed the Parliament Bill by a majority of 17, the figures, on the question of non-insistence on the amendment, being:
For... 131
Against... 114
Majority... 17
It was evident long before the House got to business yesterday, the attendance being again great, that the sitting would be one of unexampled interest for many years. Everywhere on the Opposition benches there were conferences and discussions. For instance, on the front bench at one moment Lord St Aldwyn was being interviewed by Lord Halsbury, and the next Lord Rosebery crossed and had a brief conversation with Lord Lansdowne. All over the Opposition benches there was unusual excitement, and the air was full of electricity. Meanwhile the Government benches were perfectly calm. The usual Ministers who have borne the brunt of the work of the late struggle were watching keenly every move. It was noticed that Lord Morley held a small document, which he glanced at

ON THIS DAY August 11, 1911

A constitutional issue reached its crisis in 1909 when Lloyd George's Budget was rejected by the Lords. If they had not passed this Bill Prime Minister Asquith would have resorted to the King's guarantee to create enough Liberal peers to form an Upper Chamber majority frequently, but beyond this nothing indicated that he was prepared to give a crushing answer to the question addressed to him at the previous sitting. Quietly enough the debate was resumed by LORD MIDDLETON, who claimed the right of the House to know what answer the Government were prepared to give to the questions asked the previous night as to the extent of the guarantees which they had received from the King. Had they received from the King guarantees for the creation of such a number of peers as they thought necessary to pass the Bill substantially as left the House of Commons...? As soon as Lord Middleton sat down a remarkable scene

quickly followed. There were calls and suggestions from various quarters for a clear statement by the Government as to the guarantees. LORD MORLEY at once rose and read from a paper which he held: "If the Bill should be defeated to-night, his Majesty would assent to the creation of peers sufficient in numbers to guard against any possible combination of the different parties in opposition by which the Government Bill might again be exposed to defeat." Before the Minister could add a word there arose a prolonged triumphant cheer from his followers, while opposite there was a dead silence. There were, however, some cries from under the galleries showing that the words had not been clearly heard, so LORD MORLEY offered to read them again, and he did so... LORD ROSEBERY, proceeding rapidly to the Table and speaking with impressive earnestness and warmth, condemned the conduct of the Government in going twice to a young and inexperienced King only months on the Throne and asking for contingent guarantees before the Bill had passed the House of Commons and when it was kept from the House of Lords. Nor had any ex-Cabinet Minister been consulted. They could not measure the enormous gravity of the situation brought about by the Government. The whole transaction left an unpleasant flavour.

ASHES TO AS...

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TODAY IN THE TIMES

ASHES TO ASHES
England take fast track to defeat at Trent Bridge
PAGE 31

CAR TROUBLE
Hill loses out on wheel of fortune
PAGE 25

SILVER SERVICE
Britain's men still playing second fiddle
PAGE 24

GONE WITH THE WIND
Chase is on for line honours in Fastnet Race
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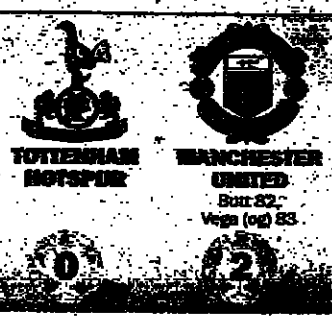
SUMMER OF SPORT

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY AUGUST 11 1997

CHAMPIONS BACK IN THE OLD ROUTINE AT TOTTENHAM

Last laugh for unmoved United



By OLIVER HOIT
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

THE new FA Carling Premiership season exploded into life in all its glorious technicolour yesterday when Teddy Sheringham, one of its most celebrated players, was dragged through the emotional wringer on his highly-changed return to his old stomping ground, White Hart Lane, with his new club, Manchester United.

The Tottenham Hotspur fans baited him all afternoon. They taunted him by singing that he was a waste of money and they went into delirious celebrations when he whacked a penalty against a post right in front of them. Football has no fury like the supporter scorned, but just when it seemed that Spurs had broken their erstwhile hero, he had the last laugh.

Playing his first competitive game for his new team since his move to Old Trafford this summer, Sheringham had driven his 59th-minute penalty against the foot of Ian Walker's right-hand post, after Edinburgh had handled in the area, and then hoisted the rebound over the bar. Yet the England striker, who cost Manchester United £3.75 million, dragged himself back from the brink of utter humiliation by inadvertently creating United's crucial first goal for Nicky Butt nine minutes from the end of a frantic second half and celebrating it as though he had just completed a hat-trick.

Less than a minute later, Vega poked Beckham's deep cross low into his own goal and Tottenham's fate was sealed.

"Teddy did his best for Tottenham," Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, said afterwards. "When he got the penalty, I turned to Brian Kidd and said 'I hope he does not miss this one. Next week would be okay but not this one'."

"When you appoint a penalty taker, it is important you know he has the temperament to be able to carry on if he misses and he showed that character today. You have got to expect the sort of stick he got. It was a bit over the top, but not quite in the same league as the reception Paul Jones got when he went back to West Ham."

Sheringham's eventual prompting of the United victory, though, was confirmation not only of his own redemption but of the wisdom of his insistence on a transfer. On yesterday's performance, Spurs are not as bad as their fans may have feared, but they are still far from potential champions.

United had taken the whole of the first half to find their stride, but once they hit it, they battered Spurs into submission with a riot of unanswered attacks that provided



Butt celebrates the goal that set Manchester United on the way to victory in their first match of the season, at White Hart Lane yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

the first evidence that Alex Ferguson's team, once more, will be the team to beat this season. "They have set the standard already with that performance," Gerry Francis, the Tottenham manager, said.

The first weekend of the new season, of course, is too soon to read much into a sequence of results, but where Liverpool and Arsenal had both faltered against middling opposition on Saturday, United slipped back into the old routine here yesterday by ruthlessly disposing of a Tottenham team

that lacked penetration in attack and creativity in midfield.

Tottenham managed to hold their own for the first 45 minutes and had the best player on the pitch in Sol Campbell, but, after the interval and particularly when Roy Keane, United's new captain, started to stride forward more regularly and David Beckham had replaced Paul Scholes on the right, they were outclassed.

The home team had started the match playing with more confidence and cohesion than most of

their own supporters had dared hope for. Ginola was the soul of composure and flair from the start and, after the Frenchman had provided the United defence with its first test with a long ball towards Ferdinand that Phil Neville did well to intercept, Nielsen lofted another ball towards the England centre forward. This time, it took a desperate last-ditch interception by Johnson to put Ferdinand off.

At the back, Campbell was imperious, stifling every United initiative, mopping up cleanly and

calmly. Even his distribution, something that the England manager, Glenn Hoddle, has said he must work on, was flawless.

With Pallister and Johnsen unyielding at the other end, too, first-half opportunities were limited to the occasional half-chance. Walker smothered a snap shot from Sheringham low down at his near post and Vega nodded Ginola's corner high over the bar from an unmarked position ten yards out.

In the second half, though, Spurs' resistance crumbled. Giggs

should have scored when Phil Neville pulled a low cross back to him 15 yards out, but he lifted his head and his shot flew over. Then Giggs laid a pass into the path of Scholes and, when his mis-hit shot scuttled across the Spurs area, Sheringham ran on to it but lifted it high over the bar.

By now, Campbell was keeping United at bay almost by himself, but even he was powerless when Edinburgh, who had just tackled Cruyff, scooped the ball further away from trouble with his hand.

The rapture of the Spurs supporters was something to behold when Sheringham missed, but, in fact, it was just the beginning of the end.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): I. Walker — S. Carr, R. Vega, S. Campbell, J. Edinburgh — A. Nelson, D. Howells, S. Charnock (sub. A. Sinton, D. Givola — I. Ferdinand, S. Harsen)

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): P. Scholes — D. Brown, R. Johnson, G. Pallister, P. Neville — P. Scholes (sub. D. Beckham, C. G. N. Butt, R. Keane, R. Giggie — E. Sheringham, J. Cruyff)

Referee: G. Poll

Owen arrives, page 26
Wilson's faith, page 27
Lynne Truss, page 29

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Gear trouble near finish denies Briton popular win in Hungarian Grand Prix

Hill's charge overtaken by misfortune

FROM MICHAEL CALVIN
IN BUDAPEST

DAMON HILL was five miles from the most fulfilling win of his career yesterday afternoon, just two laps from his most memorable achievement since he became world champion. Then, in a mortifying sequence that compressed a season's misfortunes into a minute, he lost his gears, his accelerator and the Hungarian Grand Prix.

He forced his underdeveloped, underpowered, Arrow-Yamaha to the finish on little more than a touching faith in the fairness of fate, but could do nothing to prevent his former Williams team-mate, Jacques Villeneuve, from inheriting the most fortunate victory of his Formula One career.

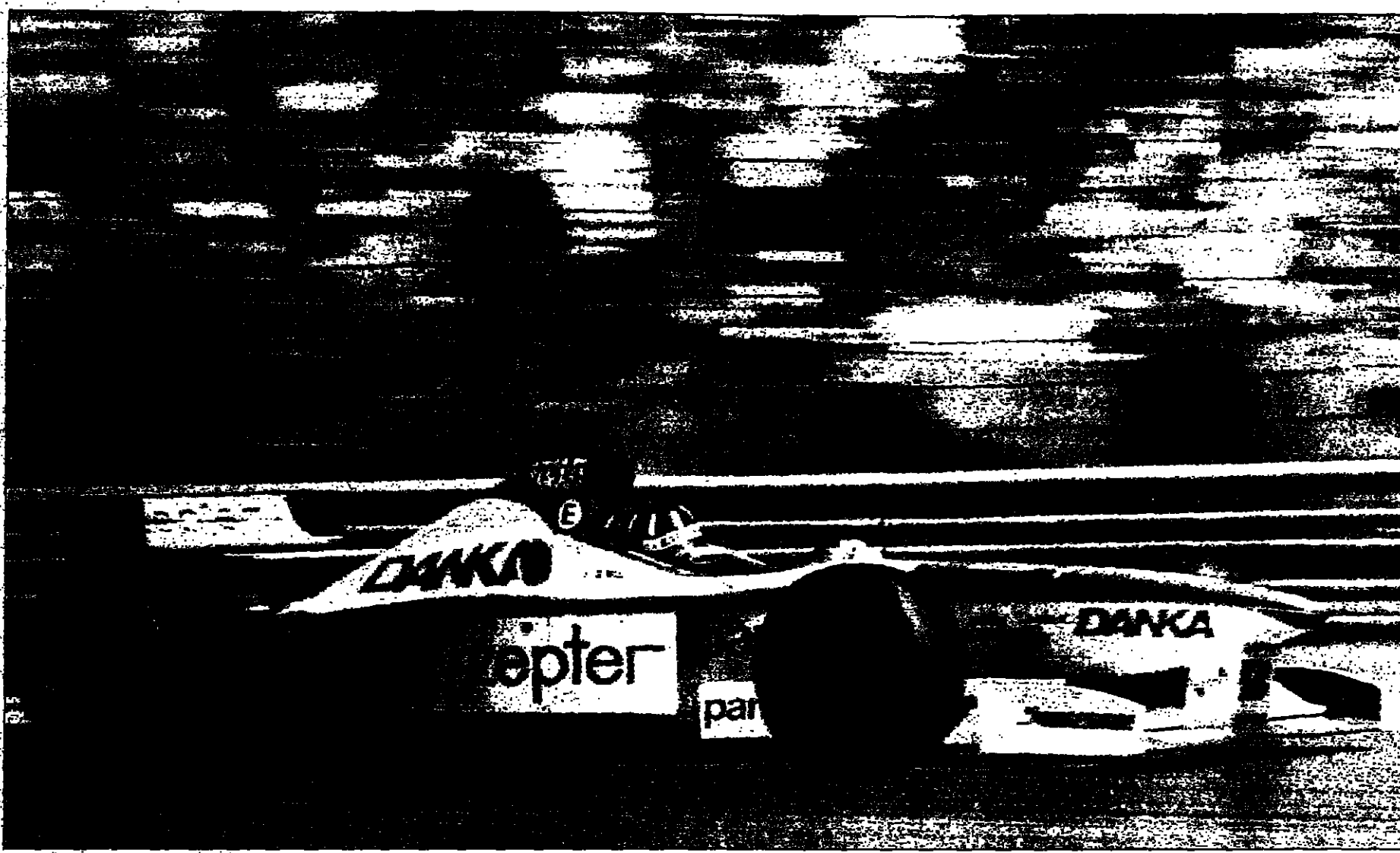
The Canadian, appraised by the knowledge that he had reduced the world drivers' championship lead of fourth-placed Michael Schumacher to three points, readily acknowledged Hill's supremacy. It was a gracious, almost pointlessly, gesture, because moral victories are destined worthless in a sport that institutionalises selfishness.

The crowd of 200,000, a Ferrari ribbon of humanity wound around the wooded hillsides of the Hungaroring, had a broader perspective. When Hill clambered on the podium to receive his runners-up trophy, they hailed him with unprecedented intensity. The main grandstand, filled with Schumacher supporters who had made the short journey across the German border, rose as one.

"Damon, Damon," they chanted. The Briton looked abashed and pained on the edge of the balcony, waving with his left hand, before he was engulfed into the ritual champagne fight with Villeneuve and Johnny Herbert, whose third-place in the Sauber-Petronas represented his best performance since the Monaco Grand Prix last year.

The acclaim signalled more than sympathy. It was a tribute to the human qualities of a driver who has responded to adversity with equanimity. Hill has a natural humility, a slow, self-deprecating sense of humour. This weekend was a telling response to the cynics who spouted the conventional wisdom that the title had snatched his ambition.

It was impossible to escape the magnitude of the opportunity that was snatched away as he accelerated out of the chicane towards the end of lap 75. At that moment, Arrows were on the verge of their first win in 299 races since they entered Formula One in 1978. Bridgestone, whose tyre development programme was perfectly suited to the twisty, dirty circuit, was preparing to celebrate its



The Arrows-Yamaha driven by Hill had dominated the Hungarian Grand Prix before a cruel twist of fate two laps from the chequered flag prevented him from claiming victory

first victory. So was Yamaha, because usually these things are terminal. The car lasts about half a lap and then it stops. It is a bitter experience to be so close to victory, but we should be celebrating. We have come second in a car that was written off completely."

Hill had been relaxed all weekend. Qualifying third, after surviving a familiar ordeal by intendo, was deeply satisfying. He lingered

over dinner to watch television coverage of his fastest lap on Saturday evening and, once on the grid, he said: "This is an environment with which I am familiar."

He waved in the general direction of a banner that inspired him to "go for it Damon" and then followed popular instruction. His start was perfect, precise and aggressive. He forced his way

past Villeneuve, fought off the Ferrari of Eddie Irvine and then settled down to harry Schumacher, whose tyres blistered quickly.

Once ahead, Hill evoked rapidly forgotten memories of his imperious pace-making in a Williams-Renault. To use Villeneuve's words, "he was flying". He was behind only briefly, when his first pit stop allowed Heinz-Harald Frentzen to endure a cruel trans-

fusion of hope.

The German, under increasing pressure to justify his replacement of Hill at Williams, was leading by 19sec towards the end of lap 28, when the cap exploded from his petrol tank. Fuel, spilling on to the exhaust, produced a sheet of flame. His immediate pit stop merely provided confirmation of the

terminal nature of the damage.

David Coulthard was running consistently within half a second of Villeneuve before his race ended 11 laps from the flag. He deserved better than the electrical failure that crippled his McLaren, but Hill, ultimately, had far greater cause for grievance.

The sense of anticlimax was written in the taut, grim, face of Tom Walkinshaw, the Arrows owner, who recognised that the race yesterday represented a rare chance of equality in a troubled season. "This is one we've lost," he said, in stark contrast to his driver. "I don't see why we should be too happy about it."

"Damon radiated in and we told him to try to take it easy, to keep it in fifth gear, but it was too late. If he had been in fifth, he would have had a big enough lead to have won. He has done a superb job all weekend. The guys put a good car under him and he made the most of it. You can't ask for more than that, but I'm bitterly disappointed." He stopped, aware that Hill was approaching. "Thanks, Tom," Hill said. "Sorry."

Walkinshaw said. He was not alone.



Hill acknowledges the acclaim of the huge crowd after accepting his runner-up trophy at the Hungaroring

QUALIFYING
1. J. Villeneuve (Can, Williams-Renault) 1m 45.41s; 2. D. Hill (GB, Arrows-Yamaha) 1m 45.41s; 3. J. Herbert (GB, Sauber-Petronas) 1m 45.41s; 4. M. Schumacher (Ger, Ferrari) 1m 45.41s; 5. R. Schumacher (Ger, Jordan-Peugeot) 1m 45.41s; 6. S. Pardo (Jpn, Prost-Mugen-Honda) 1m 45.41s; 7. G. Berg (Austria, Benetton-Renault) 1m 45.41s; 8. E. Irvine (GB, Ferrari) 1m 45.41s; 9. U. Kuhn (Ger, Minardi-Ford) 1m 45.41s; 10. A. Alais (Fr, Benetton-Renault) 1m 45.41s; 11. J. Montoya (Col, Williams-Renault) 1m 45.41s; 12. T. Badoer (It, Minardi-Ford) 1m 45.41s; 13. M. Salo (Fin, Tyrrell-Ford) 1m 45.41s; 14. D. Coulthard (GB, McLaren-Mercedes) 1m 45.41s; 15. J. Frentzen (Ger, Williams-Renault) 1m 45.41s; 16. P. Ditz (GB, Arrows-Yamaha) 1m 45.41s; 17. G. Fisichella (It, Jordan-Peugeot) 1m 45.41s; 18. J. Magnussen (Den, Sauber-Petronas) 1m 45.41s; 19. R. Barrichello (Br, Stewart-Ford) 1m 45.41s; 20. M. Heideken (Fin, McLaren-Mercedes) 1m 45.41s; 21. G. Morandini (It, Sauber-Petronas) 1m 45.41s; 22. J. 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Wilson

Burn take Hodgson

Humble La

Manager relieved after opening-day defeat dims spotlight on Barnsley

Wilson keeps faith with homespun ideals



BARNLEY
WEST HAM UNITED 2
By Mark Thompson

THE sandwich was already turning brittle when Harry Wilson, the Barnsley manager, took two steps into the kitchen and made a second attempt. "Come on, let's get this done," he said, his voice rising.

The sun shone brightly and he had to squint, but the sweat crossed his forehead. He looked a man at ease, an unassuming, unassuming man. "I am now glad this game is out of the way and we can go back to all the hype. Hopefully we can settle down again now," he said.

Defeat had not made him despondent. He had the same look of relief as the crowd enjoying a crafty cigarette after the formality of the wedding ceremony. The cheerful assurance of last season has not been lost.

Wilson has spent more time in front of cameras and microphones than with his players. Or perhaps it just seems that way. He has told the same jokes, relayed the same anecdotes and the magnitude of his team's first game had been reinforced and reinforced again.

A game of football is a simple affair, as ephemeral as a British summer, but the build-up to Barnsley's season — and specifically this match at Oakwell on Saturday — had been tortuously overplayed. The rhythm of expectation had been played repeatedly on a booming, slack drum and we are left with a headache both from underdog overload.

Wilson, understandably, opened the season with a speech of the same team that cheered him on. Only "Tinker" and Barnard



Redfern, second from left, turns away after igniting the celebrations at Oakwell for the first Barnsley goal in the top division. Photograph: Marc Aspland

supplemented a winning combination, so signings from Macedonia, Slovenia and Germany were left to pass around the sun-cream on the substitutes' bench.

Obviously, when so much has been invested in a game of football, the absolute logic is that it will descend into bathos and it did. The streets thronged with life, balloons were sent skywards, the crowd sang gloriously, the match was pretty awful.

It started well enough. Wilkinson was a deep cross and steered it towards Redfern, who instinctively redirected it across Miklosko. It

was fitting that Redfern, the club captain and a Yorkshireman, should score the first Barnsley goal in the top division.

Barnsley have two fine proponents of a long, forgotten art in Bullock and Hendrie. They are both expert dribblers, able to caress the ball with their instep and move gracefully past players of greater physical stature. In the kick-and-rush heat of a summer afternoon, their artistry was pleasing, though not particularly incisive.

The visiting team showed nothing but bruising endeavour in the first half, but found a rhythm after

the interval. A hopeful cross was met bravely by Harrison and he lifted it into the Barnsley net. Watson, who had seemed nervous in goal, had recklessly left his line and had to watch it sail over his head and outstretched arms.

West Ham had two Frank Lampards on the bench. Frank Lampard Jr, son of the former West Ham defender who is now assistant manager, was sent on to add pep to an already industrious midfield. He played a simple pass at the halfway line and then moved

steadily through the Barnsley defence to meet a cross from

Lazaridis. Lampard scuffed the ball, but this served to place it cruelly beyond the diving Watson.

Harry Redknapp, the West Ham manager, said afterwards that a tactical switch at half-time had guaranteed the victory. "We overloaded the midfield after the break and took control of the game. Barnsley worked hard. No one will come here and have an easy game. I can promise them that," he said.

Wilson agreed that his young goalkeeper was to blame for the first West Ham goal. "In this division, you can't give anyone half a chance, because they will take it.

The keeper made the one mistake and the ball was in the back of the net," he said.

At fresco press conferences will remain collectors' items at Barnsley this season and Wilson now has to work long hours on the training ground to ensure that home defeats are of the same scarceness.

BARNLEY (3-5-2): D Watson — A de Zeeuw, P Sheriff (sub: C Maricle, 80min), A Morris — M Eaden, E Thicker, M Bullock (sub: A Ludwell, 84), M Redfern, D Barnard — J Hendrie, P Wilkinson (sub: G Hirst, 85).
WEST HAM UNITED (3-4-1-2): I Miklosko — M Repper, R Ferdinand, S Potts — J Beardsley (sub: S Lush, 46), S Lush, J Morris, M Hughes — E Beardsley (sub: F Lampard, 76) — J Harrison, P Nelson (sub: D Turner, 88).
Referee: A White.

Newcastle shaped by Asprilla's elasticity



NEWCASTLE UNITED 2
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY 1
By Ivo Tennant

FOR Kenny Dalglish, there has been no respite this summer from pesky sniping. His tactics, his transfer dealings and his supposed submission to the bean counters have not found universal favour on Tyneside. Come the kick-off, so fluent was Newcastle's passing, so integrated their five newcomers, that there was no necessity for any further carping.

Not even a bicycle kick by Carbone, for Sheffield Wednesday, that will be a contender for goal of the season, let alone of the month, could prevent this victory. Asprilla, who has to carry the attack in the absence of Shearer and Ferdinand, scored both goals, the second with the kind of sharp finishing not always apparent in August. His celebratory cartwheeling was true to type.

The one chant for Kevin Keegan, early in the afternoon, drifted away on the breeze. There was nothing quizzical about Newcastle's football and some of the inter-passing was comparable with Dalglish's Liverpool of old. In Pistone, he has acquired a defender who does not have recourse to the occasional crude clearances seen from the absent Peacock.

In goal, Given saved one free kick from Pembroke at full stretch but had all too little to do. Tomasson, the Dane, inadvertently created Asprilla's second goal. Ketsbaia, the much-travelled Georgian, also had a part in this and he, too, will be all the sharper once he has picked up the pace of the English game. Pearce was, well, simply Pearce.

Perhaps it was not surprising that Asprilla should appear so characteristically elastic in his movement. During the summer, he has been playing in his native



Asprilla: two timely goals

Colombia and, unlike Ravanelli, was not penalised for returning late for pre-season training. At one stage during the summer, his agent thought he had set up a transfer to Parma, but negotiations came to nothing. Nor did the assumption that Dalglish would like to offload him, anyway. Now, what with injuries and departures, there should be greater opportunities for him at St James' Park. The occasional sullen moods of last season have, for the time being, gone.

"The players who have come here were well educated at their previous clubs," Dalglish said. He likes to talk about education and wishes that his academically, had matched up to what he gleaned in a footballing sense. His appreciation of skill still extends to that of the opposition. "Carbone's goal was tremendous," he said. "Nobody would have stopped it."

Sheffield Wednesday, for whom Di Canio did not appear until the second half, were understandably unaware of the shape and, indeed, some of the faces in Newcastle's team. David Platt, their manager, had not seen three of the new players before, other than on television. Above all, his defence was taken unawares by the number of times Albert moved incisively into attack.

Had not Pressman come up with a number of sprawling saves, the margin of victory would have been much more considerable. As for Di Canio, Wednesday is his sixth club. "I am looking positively at us having a big season and, like Newcastle, qualifying for Europe," he said.

On Wednesday, Newcastle play the first leg of their European Cup qualifying match against Croatia Zagreb at St James' Park. This competition is not the least reason why Asprilla is still at the club. He will find this to be a somewhat more testing encounter. All the while, he is aware of the presence of Shearer, even though on Saturday he was confined to a seat 20 yards from the touchline.

NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-4-2): S Given — S Watson, A Paterson, P Albert, S Potts — J O'Shea, T Ketsbaia, J Beardsley — F Asprilla, J D Tomasson.
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2): K Pressman — P Boudreau, D Shesternov, D Walker, R Nicolson — G Whitham (sub: M Apple, 77min), G Hyde (sub: W Collins, 58), P Johnson, M Pembroke — S Carbone, O Donohoe (sub: P de Carlo, 62).
Referee: P Jones.

Blackburn take chance to revel in Hodgson's happy return



BLACKBURN ROVERS 1
DERBY COUNTY 0
By Peter Robinson

IT WAS more summer fête than football match. There was something about a time armed with a water pistol, parachutists, pom-pom girls and, I kid you not, a man with a bag on his head juggling machetes. Had the bouncy castle not been booked by a family 800 yards down the road, that, presumably, would have been set up as well.

True, it was Roy Hodgson's fiftieth birthday, but that was not the reason for the party atmosphere at Ewood Park on Saturday, nor was it a spontaneous display of Lancastrian *jolie de vivre* — no, Blackburn was celebrating the start of the football season, the best day of the season, the day when the sun shines, the pitch glistens, when every new player is a hero and when everything is possible.

Blackburn Rovers won — of course they did, it was in the script — but they did so with gentlemanly decency, allowing Derby County to leave with heads held high. Nobody was reading too much into victory or defeat, quite rightly, and everybody accentuated the positive.

Jim Smith, for example. "We had a strong case for a point," the Derby manager said. "We started nervously, Blackburn played well and you could see the goal coming. After that, it was our game. I thought we had a case for a penalty... and so on and so forth. He did not say 'but never mind, eh', but he didn't need to, it was understood.

Any anger was confined to half-time, which began with his players trooping off the field a goal down and ended with them returning revived and reorganised, to the obvious surprise of their hosts. In the first half, Blackburn had been very good — too good, according to Hodgson, still settling in as their manager — and Gallacher's 21st-minute goal, a header from Ripley's corner, was less than they deserved. After the break, Derby dominated, with Burton and Ward, two strikers, replacing the curious pair of Simpson and Carbone, a winger and a defender, up front. Burton thus made his debut, one of eight on the day. Rather more interesting was the sight of an Australian, a Swiss, a Frenchman and, later, two Swedes lining up against an Estonian, a Croat, a Dutchman, a Dane, an Italian and later a Jamaican in what used to be

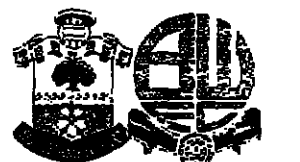
called the English first division. Hodgson, the ultimate continental manager, played good old English 4-4-2, but then there's always one.

Of those who got a game, Eranio (Italy) looked silky smooth when he got the ball on the Derby right, which was not often. Filan (Australia) impressed, making one fine save from Hunt, Henschow (Switzerland) was arguably the best player on the field. Valery (France) a dependable right back and Dahlin (Sweden), a latecomer, did enough to please Hodgson, who, on the evidence of his press conference, is a consummate performer in his own right. The line about Malmö beating Sundsvall 4-0 away on his fortieth birthday was a nice one, slipped into a monologue that appeared to praise everyone but his mum.

In fact, there appeared to be only one long face in Blackburn on Saturday, belonging to the young fan on Mill Hill station wearing a brand new Rovers shirt with the words "Le Saux" on the back. "I've heard all the jokes, all day," he said ruefully. "I even tried to pull the letters off this morning, but I couldn't." Oh yes, and he missed his train.

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): J Platt — P Valley, S Hendrick, C Hendry (sub: I Pearson, 72min), J Kerna — S Ripley (sub: A Anderson, 65), M McElroy, G Fildes, J Wilson — R Gallacher, C Sutton (sub: M Dahlin, 78).
DERBY COUNTY (3-5-2): M Poom — J Laurson, J Simec, C Daley — S Simec, I Connery, J Ward, R van der Laan (sub: D Powell, 77), C Powell — M Carbone (sub: A Weed, 45), P Simpson (sub: D Burton, 45).
Referee: D Elbery.

Blake strike proves sufficient to subdue sterile Southampton



SOUTHAMPTON 0
BOLTON WANDERERS 1
By Nick Szczepanik

IT WAS business as usual for Bolton Wanderers on Saturday as they began life back in the FA Carling Premiership more or less where they left off in the Nationwide League first division. That they did not win more emphatically was to the credit of Paul Jones, the Southampton goalkeeper, who defied the visitors time and again in the second half.

"We worked extremely hard in very hot conditions," Colin Todd, the Bolton manager, said. "We kept a clean sheet and created a lot of opportunities. The longer the game went on, the more we grew in stature and composure."

Bolton could, in fact, have been ahead in the first minute as McGinlay made room for himself with a deft touch, but he shot wide, as did Thompson seventeen minutes later, and it seemed they might pay when Southampton mounted late first-half pressure; Magilton took on the mantle of the injured Le Tissier as sprayer-in-chief of long passes and made sure that Williams, the promising 19-year-old debutant, saw a lot of the ball on the left.

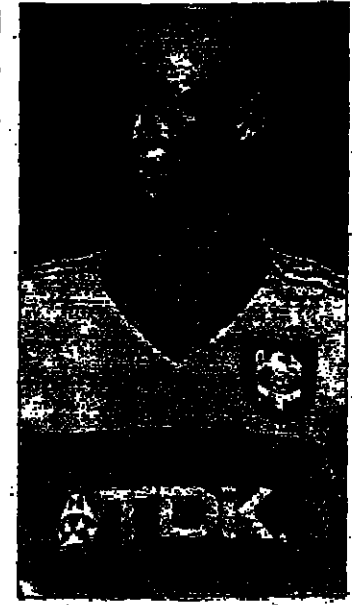
Unfortunately, when they got within range of the penalty area, a high cross was the sum total of their ideas and Bolton coped comfortably, their own attacks fewer but more incisive. Three minutes before half-time, Sellers found Blake, just inside, and he drove a

low shot under Jones and into the net.

David Jones, the new Southampton manager, blamed his defenders for a faulty defensive trap. "We were doing okay — just starting to take charge — until we made a stupid mistake at the back," he said. "Then you end up chasing the game. We had one or two half-chances that, with a bit more care, we might have tucked away. What concerned me was that they had three one-against-ones in the second half."

In each case, Jones, the goalkeeper, bought by his namesake from his former club, Stockport County, repelled Bolton's efforts, saving his most spectacular save for Thompson's low drive, which he finger-tipped on to the foot of a post; but Southampton will be as worried that they did not create a clear-cut chance of their own in the entire

Humble Lombardo makes stately Palace entrance



Lombardo: counter-attacks

OF ALL the foreign imports that now saturate the FA Carling Premiership, there is something about bald or balding Italians, something that excites the passions, stirs the emotions and inspires wonderment: something that similarly, and often subsequently, provokes dislike, generates distrust and raises the hackles.

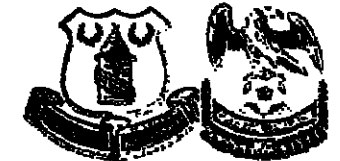
First, there was Gianluca Vialli, the shaven-headed idol of Chelsea, who entranced Stamford Bridge with his grace and guile but soon whinged long and loud when his first-team place was lost. Then, there was Fabrizio Ravanelli, the crop-haired "White Feather" of Middlesbrough, who conquered Teesside with his glut of goals, but quickly wanted out when relegation was confirmed.

On Saturday at Goodison Park, Attilio Lombardo, latterly of Juventus, presented himself for

inspection with Crystal Palace. He is 31, smooth of pale, approaching the twilight of an illustrious career and joined Palace — certainly for the Premiership drop, according to most pre-season pundits — only a week ago.

He had, if reports were to be believed, demanded a mansion, a maid and a butler to help to ease his transition from Serie A to Selhurst Park and perhaps soften the blow when Palace return from whence they came, the Nationwide League. He then, apparently, reconsidered, pledged his allegiance and concluded the £1.6 million deal — minus the stately pile and servants.

"That was the biggest load of cobblers I've ever heard," Steve Coppell, the Palace manager, said. "He's not a prima donna, he's not over here just to earn a few bob. He's a professional in every sense."



EVERTON 1
CRYSTAL PALACE 2
By Russell Kempson

Lombardo sat on the right of midfield, collecting the scraps from Palace's defensive resistance and launching counter-attacks with stealth and intelligence. It was a gentle, encouraging work-out, against an uncoordinated and unimaginative Everton side and appeared, at least initially, to fill the void left by Hopkin's summer defection to Leeds United.

"We needed someone to break forward from that midfield role," Coppell said. "I gave him that freedom, but he is so diligent that he also dropped back to tackle when needed." Good players are invariably associated with key moments, too. Lombardo flicked in the opening goal in the 34th minute, from Warhurst's chipped pass, and was brought down by Stuart in the second half to earn a penalty, from which Dyer confidently extended the Palace lead.

Though Everton dominated, it was with little conviction. Howard Kendall's first game in charge, at the start of his third spell at Goodison, was not auspicious. Neither was Speed's first match as captain, nor Ferguson's first outing of a new five-year contract, nor the debuts of Oster, Thomas and Farrelly. Only Bilic, smooth and safe on his introduction, had any cause for minor satisfaction.

Lofting the ball persistently into the area for Ferguson produced a defiant response from Palace and only once did the play work, when he headed in Stuart's 85th-minute free kick. It was otherwise predictable fare. How Kendall must have wished Ravanelli, Ince or Ferdinand had accepted his close-season advances.

Lombardo stole the show on a Mediterranean afternoon on Merseyside. How he fares in deep midwinter, when Palace are under pressure and Selhurst Park is awash, will prove more relevant. Bald is beautiful... but for how long?

EVERTON (4-3-3): N Southall — A Thomas (sub: M Birch, 46min), D Watson, S Bile, T Phelan — C Thompson (sub: N Barry, 64), J O'Shea (sub: C Short, 87), G Speed, G Farnley — J Johnson, 70, E Osterlind.
CRYSTAL PALACE (3-5-2): K Miller — K Muscat, D Tuttle, M Edwards, A Lingham, D Gordon — A Lombardo (sub: G Vear, 81), A Roberts, S Rodgers — B Dyer (sub: M Sheppey, 81), P Warhurst (sub: J Furlong, 78).
Referee: S Dunn.

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Sheffield United | 2 |
| Sunderland | 0 |

BY BILL EDGAR

Merson, who made his Middlesbrough debut in Saturday's 2-1 win, surges between Charlton defenders Keith Jones, left, and Newton.

New division — old problems

Hayles

underlin

SIMON BARNES



At the Riverside
Stadium

es his va

| Value | Market |
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cclesfield

Jansen fights shy of taking centre stage

By KEVIN MCCARRA

make the

their mark

Hayles underlines his value

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Bristol Rovers..... | 1 |
| Plymouth Argyle..... | 1 |

By PAT GIBSON

Conference over the past two seasons.

This one match was probably enough to double his transfer value. Strong, quick and well-balanced, Hayles was outstanding in an overheated West Country derby that Rovers would have won comfortably if some of his colleagues had been as sharp and skilful. "I think he's a terrific footballer," Holloway enthused. "He has pace, he is strong enough to hold people off and he

scores goals. I think he's good enough to go all the way."

PLYMOUTH ARGYLE: (3-5-2) J. Sheffield — M. Heathcote, J. Rowbottom, R. Logan — S. Collins, G. Anthony, C. Bish (sub E. Jean, 73), P. Walton, P. Williams — C. Corazon, A. Littlejohn
Referee: M. Brooker.

Macclesfield make their mark

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Macclesfield Town | 2 |
| Torquay United | 1 |

By BRIAN DOOGAN

"This is history for Macclesfield Football Club, that is why," proclaimed the car sprayer from Dusseldorf, who supports Bayern Munich but who decided to be with the Vauxhall Conference champions on their first day in the Nationwide League. As a member of the nomadic band known as The 92 Club, he could also maintain his record of having been to every

"We made a dream start, scoring through Efeobore Sodje after seven minutes, but within another two minutes, they had scored us back. So much for the

Richie Landon ensured this would not be the case when the striker finished off a Sorvel shot that was parried by the Torquay goalkeeper, Gregg, in the 57th minute.

MACGILLFEST TOWN (4-2): R Price - D Tinson, S Payne (sub: C Eady, 77min), E Sodie, N Howarth - C Price, J Aisley, S Wood, N Sorvel - R Landon (sub: P Power, 84) A Mason

TORQUAY UNITED (3-5-2): M Gregg - A Gurney, P Gibbs (sub: T Bedeau, 79), J Robinson - J Galtens, A Watson, C Conway, P Mitchell, S McCall (sub: K Hill, 73) - A McFarlane, R Jack.

RESULTS FROM THE WEEKEND

[illegible]

Other results page 36

074-00130

GOLF: UNITED STATES ARE DELAYED BUT EDGE EVER CLOSER TO AN OVERWHELMING VICTORY

Rally keeps Walker Cup hopes alive

FROM JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT
IN SCARSDALE, NEW YORK

GARY WOLSTENHOLME and Justin Rose staged a stirring finish in their four-somes match against Randy Leen and Chris Wollmann on the morning of the second day of the Walker Cup at Quaker Ridge yesterday.

Wolstenholme and Rose rallied from one down after the 11th to defeat Leen and Wollmann by 2 and 1.

This made sure that the match remained alive until the afternoon. Nonetheless, the United States held a lead of 11½-4½ over Great Britain and Ireland and needed only one point from the singles to regain the trophy that they last won in 1993.

It was a very disappointing performance from a team widely believed to be the best prepared ever and one of the most capable. One player after another failed to reproduce the form shown at home, while the Americans demonstrated both the accuracy and control needed to play well on a course as narrow and demanding as Quaker Ridge.

One of golf's oldest laws is that at amateur level par golf is good enough to win at matchplay more often than not. It was demonstrated again in the second day's four-somes, which the United States won 3-1. By one estimate, Great Britain and Ireland were a cumulative 41 over par for the two days of four-somes.

Wolstenholme and Rose could be excused the criticism aimed at their team-mates, for their play in the four-somes on the second morning was courageous and skilful. They are a potent force when on song: Wolstenholme loves the spotlight and the fact that he is by far the shortest hitter on either side does not bother him; Rose, after hitting one of the wildest drives in Walker Cup history on the first morning, continued to demonstrate a maturity that is remarkable in one who is only 11 days past his seventeenth birthday.

Wollmann and Leen were three times one hole ahead and each time were hauled back to be level by the turn. Wolstenholme and Rose regained holes either by holing long putts or chipping in. The two Englishmen took the lead for the first time in the match on the 15th, where Wolstenholme



Watson, of Great Britain and Ireland, has to play out of the trees after hitting a wayward tee shot. Photograph: David Cannon / ALLSPORT

holme holed an eight-foot putt that curled viciously for a bogey five that was better than the Americans' six.

Then, on the 16th, Wolstenholme hit a magnificent shot from a fairway bunker to nine feet and Rose sank the putt. All week, Rose has had to cope with questions from Americans of the order of "how does it feel to be Britain's Tiger Woods" and now he behaved like Woods. He clenched his fist and gave a perfect demonstration of a Woods gesture that is becoming increasingly familiar.

It was essential that the British got off to a good start early yesterday morning and

this is what happened. They won the opening hole in two of the four matches and halved it in the other two. Suddenly, there was a hope, albeit a faint one, that the overnight deficit of five points could be reduced sufficiently to make the 36th match into a half-decent contest.

Yet it did not last long. Steven Young and Craig Watson were comfortably defeated by John Harris, the senior statesman of the American team, and Brad Elder, 3 and 2. Harris, competing in his third Walker Cup, has been an inspiration to young team-mates destined for the professional ranks. Calm and

competitive, he guided Elder throughout their match and the two of them were only one over par when the match was concluded on the 16th green. Watson and Young were six over par.

Then Barclay Howard and Graham Rankin ran into some fine golf from Buddy Marucci and Jerry Courville. Howard, who was expected to fulfil the same role for the British as Harris did for the United States, never found his game in the heat. Despite birdieing the 1st and the 9th, they were three down at the turn to Courville and Marucci. Few could have lived with the old hands, who were one

under par when they won on the 14th green. It was left to David Park and Richard Coughlan, who had narrowly lost their four-somes on Saturday and were paired together again, to try and add a little more respectability to the British scoreline. Both scrapped doggedly against Duke Delcher and Steve Scott. Though they won the 17th to get back to all-square when Park holed a short putt, the match ended disappointingly — and yet somehow typically — as the visitors' play in this match. After a wild drive by Coughlan, the Americans won the hole and the match with nothing better than a par.

DETAILS

RESULTS (United States names first): First day: Four-somes: B Elder and J Kibbel to B Howard and S Young 4 and 3; Courville and B Marucci to J Rose and M Brooks 5 and 4; J Rose and J Harris to G Wolstenholme and K Nolan 6 and 4; R Leen and C Wollmann to R Coughlan and D Park 1 hole. Foursomes result: United States 4 Great Britain and Ireland 0. Singles: S Scott lost to C Watson 1 hole; D Delcher lost to Young 5 and 4; Elder to Howard 6 and 4; Kibbel lost to Rose 1 hole; Leen to Nolan 3 and 2; Gore to G Rankin 3 and 2. Wolstenholme halved with Coughlan; Harris to Wolstenholme 1 hole. Singles result: United States 4½ Great Britain and Ireland 3½. Second day: Foursomes: Coughlan and Marucci to Howard and Rankin 5 and 4; Harris and Elder to Young and Watson 3 and 2; Leen and Wollmann lost to Wolstenholme and Rose 2 and 1; Delcher and Scott to Coughlan and Park 1 hole. Foursomes result: United States 3 Great Britain and Ireland 1. Match position: United States 11½; Great Britain and Ireland 4½.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Wolves see red and ease threat of relegation

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

WARRINGTON WOLVES eased their Super League relegation fears with a rousing 23-8 victory over Salford Reds at Wilderspool yesterday. The Wolves showed their teeth after a string of disappointing results, sealing a deserved win with second-half tries from Salei Finau and Nigel Vagana.

Salford failed to reproduce the form that had carried them to victory over North Queensland Cowboys last week and that knocked Warrington out of the Challenge Cup earlier this season. The Reds also had David Holmes placed on report in the 48th minute for the alleged use of his elbow on Jon Roper.

Lee Penny had to pull off an early try-saving tackle on Scott Naylor and the full back immediately supported a break from Vagana to touch down for a try under the posts with a Lee Briers conversion giving Warrington a 6-0 lead after ten minutes.

Warrington lost Mark Hilton after only two minutes with a shoulder injury and, after Salford had a try disallowed by Naylor for obstruction, the Reds opened their account with a Steve Blakeley penalty goal in the 22nd minute.

But then Paul Sculthorpe collected his neat kick ahead and led Vagana, who put Willie Swain over for his seventh try of the season and Briers added the conversion to make it 12-2.

An error by Finau conceded a penalty try to Darren Rogers just before the break, with the conversion by Blakeley giving Salford hope at 12-8 down at the interval.

However, Finau went over in the corner to give Warrington breathing space at 16-8 before Vagana sealed the win, with Briers adding his third conversion and then landing a late dropped goal.

Paris Saint-Germain are not yet out of trouble, but a 32-0 victory last Saturday over Halifax Blue Sox should go a long way to preserving their Super League status. The match was the first of two which were switched from

Paris to the south of the country because of the French holidays and a healthy crowd of 7,743 at Narbonne witnessed their comprehensive victory.

Halifax, now without a league win in seven matches, tasted defeat at the hands of the French side for the second time in six weeks. Their son is pestered out badly as Paris are enjoying their most profitable spell. On Wednesday, they play at St Helens in the European play-off in the world club championship for the right to meet Brisbane Broncos in the quarter-finals in October.

Paris moved clear of Castleford Tigers and Oldham Bears at the bottom of the table with a six-try victory that clearly delighted Andy Goodway, the English coach, who is coaxing the best out of the mainly Australian players. "I was particularly pleased with this performance. Everything went as we practised," he said.

Brittle defending and a lack of imagination in attack conspired against Halifax, as Phil Bergman collected three tries and others were scored by Jason Eade, Paul Evans and Anthony Hancock. Matt O'Connor landed four goals in the match against Warrington.

Castleford's plight worsened in the 22-13 defeat on Friday night by London Broncos, whose victory has briefly held up Bradford Bulls' charge towards the title. Terry Matterson, the London captain, dismissed his team's outside chance of stealing the title from under Bradford's nose.

"Even if Bradford were to lose four games, their points for and against are too strong and I can't see them losing four games," Matterson said. "I hope they win them all because we play them in the last game of the Super League season. That should be a great game."

Langer's title with birdie burst

BERNHARD LANGER, of Germany, with an eight-under-par 63, came from four shots off the lead to win the Chemapol Czech Open in Prague yesterday by four strokes. It was the fiftieth tournament victory of his career.

Langer finished with a 20-under-par aggregate of 264 for his 37th European Tour win, one which lifted him from fifth to fourth on the Ryder Cup points table and from seventh to second in the Volvo Order of Merit.

His round yesterday consisted of eight birdies and ten pars. It followed a 64 with seven birdies and 11 pars on Saturday — 15 under on the final two days.

Almost as delighted as Langer was Ignacio Garrido, of Spain, who had led overnight on 16 under par. Garrido could only manage a par 71 to share second place with Niclas Fehn of Sweden, but, by winning £69,475, he clinched a Ryder Cup place at Valderrama next month. Garrido and his father, Antonio, who played in the 1979 Ryder Cup match at Greenbrier, West Virginia, will become the first father and son combination from the Continent to have played in this prestigious event. Only Percy and Peter Alliss, who played in the Ryder Cup when the opposition to the United States was drawn only from Britain and Ireland, have previously achieved this feat.

Ernie Els, the US Open champion, underlined his readiness for the US PGA Championship this week when he opened up a three-stroke lead after the third round of the PGA Buick Open at Grand Blanc, Michigan. Els, of South Africa, had a level par round of 72 for a 13-under-par total of 203.

Larry Mize, Brad Fabel and Curtis Strange were tied for second place, three shots behind Els.

Greg Chalmers, of Australia, beat Heinz-Peter Thul, of Germany, at the second hole of a sudden-death play-off to win the Challenge Tour Championship at East Sussex National yesterday. Chalmers, 23, shot a closing 65 for a ten-under-par 274 and only Thul was able to match it.

Alfredsson reveals fighting qualities in runaway victory

BY PATRICIA DAVIES

HELEN ALFREDSSON, a Swede predictable only in her unpredictability, was the runaway winner of the McDonald's WPGA Championship of Europe at Gleneagles yesterday. She finished with a round of 70, two under par, for a total of 276, four shots ahead of Kathryn Marshall, the leading Scot, and Charlotta Sorenstam, yet another talented Swede. Trish Johnson and Laura Fairclough, of England, shared fourth place with Marie-Laure de Lorenzi, of France.

Fairclough, just a shot behind Alfredsson at the turn, struggled home in 41, six over par, as the wind changed to an easterly and removed the O'Malley factor from the King's Course's finish, the influence named after Peter O'Malley played the last five holes in seven under par to snatch the 1992 Bell's Scottish Open from Colin Montgomerie.

The Daihatsu Junior Golf Tour's busiest week of the season saw three events staged over a selection of the finest golfing terrain in the country (Mel Webb writes). The week started with the boys being given a searching examination by Royal Birkdale, the venue for next year's Open Championship, and continued with visits to Seaton Carew and Barnham Brook.

Birkdale was at its toughest on Monday for the fifth tournament of the season in the national division of the Tour, which is being staged this year in association with The Times.

With easterly winds of up to 30mph, a winning score of 70, one under par, by Stephen Richards, who plays at Charridge Park, was an exceptional effort. Andi Pyc, of Braintree, was an early finisher and had to wait for most of the day before Richards came in to beat him by a single shot. Pyc made only one serious error — a double bogey, at the 13th — but it was enough to cost him victory.

Those in authority at Seaton Carew the next day set

Laura Davies, who even putted left-handed at the 17th, limped home in 40 for a 77. Of the leading contenders, only Sorenstam, who is the younger sister of Annika, the world No 1, made inroads as she came home in 32, three under par, for a 68. Sorenstam drove into a bunker to drop a shot at the last, the 463-yard par five, that had been reachable with a drive and a flick in the earlier rounds, but was a genuine three-shotter yesterday.

Alfredsson had a big operation at the end of last year — the surgeon thought it might be June before his patient started playing again, but she was back in harness in March — and the ebullient 32-year-old was almost speechless after her victory. Almost.

"I can't even tell you in words what this means," she said, clutching a cheque for £45,000. "A year ago, I was as down as I've ever been and I didn't have a solution. I was

miserable. To have come back so soon and to feel that I was playing well, it's unbelievable."

There is little that is simple or straightforward about Alfredsson — she had to learn to walk properly again as well as rediscover her golf swing — and she came back her way, mixing horrendous shots with flashes of brilliance. She worked hard at simplifying her routine — she had become an irritating fiddler, largely as a result of physical discomfort — and yesterday she stuck to it, even in the heat of battle.

Janice Mudie, from Dunrother, near Clydebank, was the leading amateur, finishing with a level-par 72 for a total of 286. She and Mhairi McKay, who missed the cut, make their professional debuts in the Weetabix Women's British Open at Sunningdale this week.

Scores, page 36

Richards flies home in high wind



For Further information contact Colin Spradford at The Daihatsu Junior Golf Tour office on 01425 674486

the players in the northern division the toughest of all possible tests. The wind blew and, with the field playing off the back tees, Craig Allison, of Clitheroe, and James Salt, of Ringway, did pretty well to come in with matching 77s. Allison claiming victory after a comeback. Benjamin Wood, Daniel Wardrop and James Holmes tied for third place, with Holmes consolidating his position at the top

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CRICKET

Lancashire outbid Sussex for Warne

By Derek Hodgson

OLD TRAFFORD (Lancashire won toss): Warwickshire (Hpts) beat Lancashire by 21 runs

LANCASHIRE have confirmed that they have made an offer to Shane Warne, Australia's leg-spinner, to become their overseas professional next season. The offer, a contract worth six figures, is dependent on medical advice given to their professional Wasim Akram, the Pakistan captain, on a recurring shoulder injury that has made him miss most of this summer.

Lancashire spokesman said last night: "Both players know the situation. Our priority has to be to protect Wasim's future as a Test player and it may be that he will be advised to give up the extra strain of county cricket." Lancashire's offer to Warne is believed to exceed that of Sussex, who are also reported to have offered a contract worth more than £100,000. Warne, speaking on television yesterday, gave the impression that he knew he would be playing in England next summer.

His presence could hardly have improved yesterday's attendance of 8,000, competing as Lancashire were with live television appearances by England's cricketers and Manchester United. The teams were joined by Lancashire leaders, Lancashire leaving a game in hand, and in this competition now represents Lancashire's only hope of a success in 1997, this match was crucial.

So with Warwickshire at 53 for four, off 12 overs, Lancashire appeared to have the points bagged. Even that score represented a recovery, from 24 for three, instigated by the captain, whose 28 included a curious flat six over cover off Peter Martin.

Once Martin and Ian Austin had been relieved the old firm of Dominic Ostler and Trevor Penney were able to

add an 82 in the next 15 overs that gave the innings some substance. Ostler's innings was ended by a throw by Graham Lloyd from the distant wide mid-wicket boundary. Graeme Welch also perished on the boundary, while Penney's half-century off 69 balls was surrendered in the final blast. Martin finished with three for 32 and might have been left to bowl through his stint, his swing through the steamy air making attacking shots exceedingly risky.

Lancashire's target was 220 as a Saharan sun gave way to a more familiar Manchester cloud. Dougie Brown removing both openers in the first nine overs, Jason Gallian's departure, caught at mid-off, being the prelude to the fullness of this match. Neil Fairbrother and Graham Lloyd against the spinners.

Fairbrother swept Ashley Giles for four, Lloyd lifted Smith over long-on and 69 came in 11 overs before Lloyd, trying a reverse sweep against Giles, was bowled. Fairbrother flinging down his bat in frustration, Fairbrother still needed only 54 balls for his fifty and at 110 for three at 20 overs Lancashire were still favourites.

Penney, at mid-off, got his hand to a lofted drive by Fairbrother, at 54, off Giles, whereupon the master was left to guide the apprentices. Andrew Flintoff and Mark Chilton, into the rhythms of one-day cricket — tap-and-run, bang, tap-and-run, bang.

Lancashire, with seven wickets standing, were still edging it, 58 needed off nine when Gladstone Small was recalled. Flintoff immediately succumbing at long-on. Chilton was bowled forcing, and, with 54 wanted off seven, Fairbrother, 79 off 90 balls, took a huge swing at Small and gave a high catch behind. Warwickshire then showed their expertise, tightening the stranglehold.



Trevor Penney, of Warwickshire, cuts Gary Yates for two in front of a small crowd at Old Trafford yesterday

Kent improve double chances

By Barney Spender

CANTERBURY (Kent won toss): Kent (Hpts) beat Essex by 117 runs

KENT have played some good cricket in the past week and they have been well rewarded for it, with the result that the disappointment of the Benson and Hedges Cup final in June, when they froze in the Surrey headhug, has given way to the reasonable prospect of an impressive double.

On Saturday, they completed an innings victory over Essex that lifted them to the top of the county championship, and yesterday, a comprehensive win over the same opponents at a packed and festive St Lawrence Ground moved them up to second in the Axa Life League, two points behind the leaders, Warwickshire.

There was just one sticky period, when they collapsed from 44 without loss to 52 for four in the space of five overs, but once Mark Ealham and Graham Crowder, who both made half-centuries, had rebuilt the innings with a muscular partnership of 89 in 14 overs, they never looked back.

The bowlers, particularly Alan Igglesden, hit their straps and the fielding and catching was of the highest order.

For Essex, though, there was rather less to shout about. They have played falteringly this season, a mixture of excellence and drudgery, and for the second week running, their performance belonged to the latter. It was hardly a good preparation for tomorrow's

| TABLE | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|----|----|----|---|---|---|-------|----|-----|
| | P | W | L | T | N | R | Pts | PP | PPR |
| Warwickshire (4) | 14 | 10 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11.91 | | |
| Kent (10) | 13 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7.16 | | |
| Lancashire (9) | 13 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2.70 | | |
| Leeds (12) | 13 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4.71 | | |
| Essex (17) | 13 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1.94 | | |
| Worcestershire (8) | 13 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8.02 | | |
| Glosters (16) | 13 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2.80 | | |
| Yorkshire (3) | 13 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6.51 | | |
| Somerset (5) | 13 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4.10 | | |
| Surrey (11) | 13 | 6 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3.75 | | |
| Nottingham (2) | 13 | 6 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2.00 | | |
| Gloucestershire (13) | 13 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2.20 | | |
| Hampshire (18) | 14 | 4 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1.85 | | |
| Derbyshire (11) | 13 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2.16 | | |
| Durham (18) | 13 | 3 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12.10 | | |
| Middlesex (7) | 13 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 9.23 | | |
| Sussex (14) | 14 | 2 | 11 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 10.72 | | |

(Last year's positions in brackets)

NatWest Trophy semi-final against Glamorgan and the prospect of going into that game without Paul Prichard, their captain, who tore a hamstring during the championship game, can only serve to blacken their spirits even further.

A target of 224 should have been within their compass, but once Stuart Law, who took over the captaincy, was well caught by Crowder in the fourth over, they seemed to lose their heads. Darren Brown spooned a catch to mid-on and Ronnie Irani ran himself out before he had even faced a ball.

That made it 33 for three and rather than rebuild, the remaining Essex batsmen, with the exception of Paul Grayson, played with a careless extravagance that allowed Kent to wrap up the match with 12.2 overs to spare.

Trevor Ward and Matthew Walker had given Kent a flying start with an opening partnership of 44 for the first wicket before both went in the space of four balls. In the ninth over, Walker swung casually at Irani's fourth ball

and Ward, who had just reached 4,000 runs in the competition, was then bowled by Stuart Law's first ball of the next over.

Nigel Llong and Alan Wells, stumped by Robert Rollins off a Stuart Law wide, joined the procession to leave Kent in some disarray, but Ealham and Crowder are capable cricketers and together they repaired the damage with an array of genuine shots and streaky slog.

Balham's test credentials may be a matter of lengthy debate, but there is little doubt that he is a most valuable one-day player and here he began the revival by dispatching Ashley Cowan to the boundary either side of the wicket off successive deliveries. He reached 50 from 67 balls, but two deliveries later attempted to sweep Peter Such, the off-spinner, and was leg-before. By that stage, though, Crowder, who began quietly, was into his stride. He rattled along to 80 from 79 deliveries, hitting nine fours and a six off Such into the pavilion, before he skied the penultimate ball of the innings to Law.

Holloway restores the smiles

By Pat Gibson

TAUNTON (Somerset won toss): Somerset (Hpts) beat Gloucestershire by 73 runs

A SCINTILLATING 117 by Piran Holloway, his first century in one-day cricket, coupled with a magical bowling spell from Mushtaq Ahmed, delivered a severe blow to Gloucestershire's hopes of winning the Axa Life League title in a match that was full of meaning to these West Country rivals.

It was played on the pitch that Somerset wanted to use for the championship match and they took great delight in scoring 267 for eight from their 40 overs before dismissing Gloucestershire for 194.

On Saturday night, the Somerset players had been locked in their dressing room for an inquest into their feeble championship performance in which they collapsed to 38 for six on a blumery batting surface and just managed to hold on for a draw.

Yesterday, Somerset rattled along at more than six runs an over with the diminutive Holloway receiving splendid support from Ecclestone and Bowler. Ecclestone helped him put on 107 in 16 overs for the second wicket before he was caught at long on for 44. Bowler contributed 46 off only 38 balls to a third-wicket partnership of 90 in 13 overs when he was held at mid-wicket.

Holloway, looking like a rag doll in the sweating heat, battled on to his 117 off 107 balls with 11 fours. Somerset managed only 65 for the loss of six wickets in the last ten overs, but it did not really matter.

Wright and Hancock gave Gloucestershire a decent start, but they were in trouble as soon as Mushtaq was introduced for the twelfth over. He had Wright caught off his fourth ball and conceded only 14 runs from his eight overs. Rose completed his eighth for 23 runs and the wicket of Hancock and Gloucestershire were doomed when Harden ran out Young with a direct hit from long off. Burns took four wickets to return his best Sunday figures.

Smith keeps title aspirations alive

By Jack Bailey

EASTBOURNE (Leicestershire won toss): Leicestershire (Hpts) beat Sussex by 44 runs

THE Leicestershire running fox returned home with something for the larder. The Sunday league title remains in sight. Their total of 184, though achieved with difficulty, was built round a fine 71 from Ben Smith and was followed by a disciplined display in the field. Dominic Williamson's brisk medium pace earned him career-best figures of five for 32.

That Leicestershire wound up their innings within the realms of respectability, owed much to Smith. A popular man, he was roared on by his colleagues at every turn and gave good measure for the support he received.

At 51 for four, the Leicestershire innings was in need of revival and Smith and the left-handed Dakin began the reconstruction with a standard 60 in 14 overs before Dakin

Hutchison swings into contention

By Alistair Storie

PAUL HUTCHISON, with match figures of 11 for 102 in only his fourth first-class match, took Yorkshire to an unlikely victory over Pakistan A by 69 runs. The tall, 20-year-old former England Under-19 international swung the ball prodigiously and, in this uncertain time for emerging professionals, has surely earned the right to closer inspection.

Yorkshire's pace attack, perhaps sensing the new ball was crucial, bowled more purposefully than in the first innings. Hutchison was immediately on target, trapping Raza, the Test player, in front. Wasim and Raza followed in successive balls after lunch and, at 63 for six, Pakistan A appeared to be folding. Elahi, unpenetrable for 140 balls, gave the touring team a ray of hope, but the reintroduction of Hutchison saw that evaporate.

Butcher on song as Surrey cruise home

By Rupert Cox

THE OVAL (Durham won toss): Surrey (Hpts) beat Durham by seven wickets

ALAN WALKER, the Durham No. 11, could barely have selected a more apt tune to escort him to the wicket at the Oval yesterday. He pumped for Shampoo's "Uh-oh, we're in trouble" and, with the Durham innings lagging at 179 for nine in the penultimate over, his anxiety was well justified. On a fine batting wicket, it was not enough to extend the Axa Life title holders and Surrey duly sauntered home by seven wickets, with nine balls to spare.

What a difference a week makes. Then, Mark Butcher had been dropped by England and disciplined by Surrey for the antics that followed his dismissal at Lord's. Yesterday, he responded with a stylish 81 and, in so doing, demonstrated his class and form, although he left Darren Bicknell to carry the home

team to victory with an undefeated 49. Durham batted in fits and starts, David Boon and Martin Speight each hitting at grander offerings, but, when Speight gifted Jason Ratcliffe with a first Sunday victim of the season, the momentum and the contest were all but lost.

It was left to Mike Roseberry, the former Durham captain, to extend the innings by hitting an unbeaten 55 from 56 balls with two sixes and two fours. Baffled by a championship average of 11.5, Roseberry, batted with a refreshing abandon; gone were the inhibitions that have blighted his form in the county championship since moving from Middlesex after the 1994 season.

Durham's infirmity had been instigated by the Surrey beneficiary, Martin Bicknell, who dismissed both openers and finished with an impressive haul of four for 28.

A slow pitch assisted the spinners, notably Richard Illingworth, who was making his first appearance this season after a shoulder injury. Illingworth's eight overs cost 19 runs in an innings noteworthy for Rob Bailey, the Northamptonshire captain, completing 6,000 Sunday runs with a six over mid-wicket.

Until Solanki's flurry, in a sixth-wicket partnership of 49 in six overs with Rueben Spiring, no batsman mastered the worn surface. Graeme Swann, 18, an off spinner, on his first-team debut, bowled David Leatherdale and had Solanki expertly taken by Warren to return figures of two for 28.

Kevin Curran also played his part, and this run out of Graeme Hick was a prime factor in the mid-innings breakthrough by Northamptonshire.

Spiring's dismissal, run out by Richard Montgomery, with 57 needed from eight overs and only three wickets in hand, did not deter Worcestershire.

Emburey mauled by Lampitt

By Michael Austin

NORTHAMPTON (Worcestershire won toss): Worcestershire (Hpts) beat Northamptonshire by two wickets

THIS sun-baked match had a most tantalising finish, with Worcestershire plundering an unlikely win as Stuart Lampitt struck to off five balls from John Emburey, the veteran Northamptonshire off spinner, to bring his county home with one ball to spare. Lampitt, in his elegant, cranked 6, 2, 2, 4, 2 from the fateful last over.

These remarkable events had seemed unlikely after Russell Warren made 44, the highest score of the game, for Northamptonshire, and also distinguished himself by stumping Gavin Haynes and catching Vikram Solanki.

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Nobody made a half-century and no partnership was worth fifty, the closest in the first innings being 49 in six overs between Fordham and Curran. Lampitt's remarkable onslaught, while having a rigging rib injury, became all the more stunning in the context of the game.

WEST-INDIES SCOREBOARDS

Tour match

Yorkshire v Pakistan A

HEADINGLEY (final day of tour): Yorkshire beat Pakistan A by 69 runs

YORKSHIRE: First innings 243 (D Byas 84; Ashraf Mahmood 5 for 66)

Second Innings

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| M D Moon c Mujahid b Hassan | 155 |
| M P Vaughan c Mohammad b Ashraf | 91 |
| A McGrath c Hassan b Ashraf | 5 |
| B Porter b Ashraf | 43 |
| A C Morris c and b Ali Hussain | 13 |
| *D Byas b Ali Hussain | 11 |
| IC Chapman run out b Ashraf | 14 |
| G W Hamilton c Ali Hussain b Ashraf | 10 |
| ID Fisher c Shoaib b Ashraf | 10 |
| C E W Silverwood b Ashraf | 1 |
| P M Hinchey not out | 1 |
| Extras (b 17, w 13, nb 42) | 72 |
| Total | 378 |

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-89, 2-94, 3-175, 4-204, 5-254, 6-340, 7-360, 8-366, 9-377.

BOWLING: Shoaib: Ashraf 23-5-80-0; Abdul Razzaq 28-5-108-5; Ali Hussain 46-12-91-2; Ashraf Mahmood 15-1-65-1; Hassan Raza 12-3-36-1.

PAKISTAN A: First Innings 365 (Mohammad Wasim 155, Javed Caht 61; P M Hinchey 4 for 84, G M Hamilton 4 for 95)

Second Innings

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Saim Ehsan c Morris b Hutchinson | 89 |
| Majeed Jamshed b b Hutchinson | 0 |
| A Naeem c Chapman b Hutchinson | 7 |
| Hassan Raza b b Hutchinson | 0 |
| Mohammad Wasim b Hutchinson | 0 |
| Javed Caht c Chapman b Hutchinson | 0 |
| Ashraf Mahmood c Porter b Fisher | 35 |
| Abdul Razzaq not out | 20 |
| Ali Hussain c Byas b Hutchinson | 0 |
| Shoaib Ashraf c Byas b Hutchinson | 0 |
| Extras (b 5, w 3, nb 3) | 11 |
| Total | 187 |

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-22, 3-31, 4-57, 5-63, 6-136, 7-183, 8-187.

BOWLING: Silverwood 10-3-24-0; Hamilton 12-4-52-2; Hutchinson 12-3-4-38-7; Vaughan 10-1-41-0; Fisher 6-0-28-1.

Umpires: G J Burgess and J W Lloyd.

Axa Life League

Kent v Essex

CANTERBURY (Kent won toss): Kent (Hpts) beat Essex by 117 runs

KENT

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| T R Ward b S G Law | 22 |
| M P Walker b b S G Law | 43 |
| A P Wells b b S G Law | 1 |
| N J Long b b S G Law | 1 |
| M A Ealham b b S G Law | 80 |
| G R Cowdrey c S G Law b Holt | 80 |
| M V Fleming b b S G Law | 15 |
| P A Strong not out | 15 |
| J S Marsh not out | 0 |
| Extras (b 8, w 7, nb 10) | 25 |
| Total (7 wickets, 40 overs) | 223 |

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-44, 3-45, 4-82, 5-141, 6-189, 7-221.

BOWLING: Coward 7-2-42-0; Holt 8-0-51-1; Marsh 6-0-29-3; S G Law 8-0-44-2; Kent 8-0-35-1; Powell 3-1-17-0.

Umpires: J C Balderson and P Wiley.

Lancashire v Warwickshire

OLD TRAFFORD (Lancashire won toss): Warwickshire (Hpts) beat Lancashire by 21 runs

WARWICKSHIRE

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| A Singh c Gallian b Martin | 0 |
| M K Smith b Shadford | 28 |
| D R Brown c Williamson b Martin | 0 |
| D L Hamp c Hogg b Austin | 4 |
| D P Oatley run out | 63 |
| T J Penney b Austin | 57 |
| G Welch c Finlay b Gallian | 3 |
| A F Giles b Martin | 20 |
| R J Piper run out | 9 |
| G C Small not out | 9 |
| A A Donald not out | 5 |
| Extras (b 17, w 8, nb 8) | 25 |
| Total (9 wickets, 40 overs) | 219 |

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-15, 3-24, 4-63, 5-141, 6-141, 7-178, 8-212, 9-212.

BOWLING: Martin 8-1-32-3; Austin 8-1-32-2; Shadford 4-0-28-1; Yates 8-0-40-0; Chilton 3-0-18-0; Williamson 4-0-29-0; Gallian 1-0-28-1.

Umpires: J C Balderson and P Wiley.

Leicestershire v Somerset

TAUNTON (Somerset won toss): Somerset (Hpts) beat Leicestershire by 73 runs

SOMERSET

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| A Singh c Gallian b Martin | 0 |
| M K Smith b Shadford | 28 |
| D R Brown c Williamson b Martin | 0 |
| D L Hamp c Hogg b Austin | 4 |
| D P Oatley run out | 63 |
| T J Penney b Austin | 57 |
| G Welch c Finlay b Gallian | 3 |
| A F Giles b Martin | 20 |
| R J Piper run out | 9 |
| G C Small not out | 9 |
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| Extras (b 17, w 8, nb 8) | 25 |
| Total (9 wickets, 40 overs) | 219 |

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BOWLING: Martin 8-1-32-3; Austin 8-1-32-2; Shadford 4-0-28-1; Yates 8-0-40-0; Chilton 3-0-18-0; Williamson 4-0-29-0; Gallian 1-0-28-1.

Umpires: J C Balderson and P Wiley.

Leicestershire v Somerset

TAUNTON (Somerset won toss): Somerset (Hpts) beat Leicestershire by 73 runs

SOMERSET

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| A Singh c Gallian b Martin | 0 |
| M K Smith b Shadford | 28 |
| D R Brown c Williamson b Martin | 0 |
| D L Hamp c Hogg b Austin | 4 |
| D P Oatley run out | 63 |
| T J Penney b Austin | 57 |
| G Welch c Finlay b Gallian | 3 |
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| R J Piper run out | 9 |
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Umpires: J C Balderson and P Wiley.

CRICKET

Fraser's benefit provides profit for Middlesex

TWO of the most vexatious issues in county cricket were conspicuously not addressed by the grand plan unveiled at Lord's last week. Lord MacLaurin of Knebworth decided that a period without overseas players was unnecessary and that it was beyond his power to abolish the decayed and disreputable benefit system.

On both counts, this was cause for dismay. I am emphatically not among those who decry Lord MacLaurin's plan, especially not the fickle souls who shouted down the idea of promotion and relegation in the championship but now ridicule the conference compromise, too. In any attempt to streamline playing stats and stimulate greater competition, however, imports and benefits should feature high on the list of banned commodities. A chance has been missed.

The evidence is rife. On every county staff, there are players retained for no better reason than long service, the compassionate belief that they have earned the traditional opportunity to spend a year handing round collection buckets, auctioning bats and snubbing their noses at the taxman. Without this, they would not be clogging up an oversubscribed system long past the decent time to make way for youth.

Equally, up to half the counties at any one time engage an overseas player, not because he is likely to sell many memberships or win many games but through the uncomfortable knowledge that every other club has one. Hence vast amounts of money are squandered on cricketers, possibly unreliable in fitness and availability and certainly occupying places that could more productively be used by developing Englishmen.

Benefits have become increasingly abused to a point, according to Lord MacLaurin, where the inland revenue is virtually obliged to investigate. Some counties can do us all a favour, calling a halt to this practice so that cricket must find some other way — hopefully, less damaging and demeaning — of rewarding loyalty.

Some players approach their benefit years with embarrassment outweighing gratitude. Of the crop this year, Michael Atherton is one

ALAN LEE



Championship Commentary

and Angus Fraser, I suspect, another. Fraser is a good man who has been a fine servant to Middlesex. Given the obsolescence of the system, it was nevertheless inevitable for the likes of him.

Until Saturday, this had been a quiet season for Fraser. Doubtless there had been a regular repertoire of his trademark kick at the turf — so characteristic that it was adopted as his benefit emblem — but his figures were unexceptional. He needed a big day and, if their championship prospects were not to expire, so did Middlesex.

It happened for Fraser and his team on the same day and in remarkable circumstances. The first three innings of the match at Lord's had produced 926 runs and only 14 wickets. Hampshire were then dismissed for 97, their first five wickets taken by Fraser, to give Middlesex a win by 217 runs. As the season enters its final third, Middlesex are now in a challenging fifth position

and, considering the matches played and to come, only two teams are better placed. Of these, Glamorgan were inactive this week and lost the leadership to Kent.

Of all ways to rise to the head of the table, Kent would probably opt for an innings win over Essex. Derbies between them will not be protected under the MacLaurin plan — Hampshire and Sussex are Kent's assigned neighbours — but they have an abrasive relationship.

Kent's victory, which gains them a 12-point cushion over Glamorgan, who have a game in hand, was ensured by a spell of four for 36 from Paul Strang. Leg-spinning overseas players have been the talk of the week, but the future of Strang — who may yet have to give way to the return of Carl Hooper — is not deemed half as interesting as the speculation over Shane Warne.

Lancashire are the latest club to be linked with Warne, which is unsurprising as they are one of the counties with a crooked import — Wasim Akram — and they have more money than any of their rivals. Yet as Warne is allegedly fielding offers from a variety of other counties, while logic states that Australia will move heaven and earth to prevent him from risking his joints for a season of cabaret, a measure of scepticism must be permitted.

Sussex were the first county to confirm an offer, which at least illustrates the lofty ambitions of those who now run the club. Wednesday, and the NatWest Trophy semi-final, decides the destiny of their season, but at least it will not end without a championship win. They beat Leicestershire by 38 runs on Saturday and, contrived finish though it was, it provided an unusual double — the first Sussex win of the summer and the first Leicestershire defeat in 25 years. The retention of the title is now beyond them.

Despite starting as near-perfected favourites, Surrey will not win the championship, either. They did secure their third win, overwhelming those fragile travellers, Durham, but they also raised the overseas issue again. Saqlain Mushtaq won them the match by taking ten wickets. Ostensibly he is a fine, if belated signing, but Surrey now discover he must absent himself for the second time in September, for yet another of Pakistan's spurious one-day competitions. When will we learn?

Gloucestershire, who would have joined Kent at the top if they had managed to take the last Somerset wicket, exemplify the twin issues at stake. Where Courtney Walsh's availability for this year became clouded, they cast around for a replacement and came up with Shaun Young. The Australian has done well enough to make the club think that they might have him back but Walsh already has a benefit booked next year.



Rao, left, and Greenfield, amid dressing-room chaos at Eastbourne, discuss prospects for the NatWest Trophy semi-final at Edgbaston

Two innings that saved Sussex's season

Simon Wilde meets a pair of young batsmen who have brought hope to their strife-torn county

Every spring, cricket pundits are asked to make their predictions for the new season. This year, estimating where Sussex might finish cannot have consumed undue amounts of grey matter — just enough to check that there are, indeed, 18 teams in the championship before the word "eighteenth" was placed alongside their name. Similarly ready pessimism was applied to their one-day prospects.

Sussex have been the butt of many jokes this summer — though the men who actually deserve pillorying are the members of the committee, now dismissed, whose actions ensured the wholesale departure of senior players last winter and a hard season for those who remained — and, sure enough, last week they sat soulfully at the foot of championship and Axa Life League tables.

Yet in one competition this team have defied every forecast. They have reached the NatWest Trophy semi-finals, in which they meet Warwickshire at Edgbaston on Wednesday, on the way beating Lancashire, the holders, and Derbyshire, against whom they set a record total for a side batting second.

How on earth did they do it? "This was our last chance to win something

this season," Keith Greenfield said. "After some bad performances, we were desperate to show people we could play." So desperate, in fact, that two players received the innings of their lives, Greenfield against Lancashire and Rajesh Rao, of whom few people had heard before the quarter-finals, against Derbyshire.

If there is a secret to their success, it is that a young, inexperienced side that started the season playing for pride and their own futures has made the general opposition view of them as "little old Sussex" work to their advantage. On Saturday, they handed Leicestershire, the champions, their first championship defeat of the season. Another one in the eye for the wicketless.

Warwickshire will make for significant opponents, because the NatWest Trophy final between the teams in 1993 was a turning point for both sides. Warwickshire's achievement of scoring an unprecedented 322 to win drove them on to remarkable success in county cricket and Sussex into self-doubt and division. "The mental

scars are pretty deep," Greenfield, one of four of Sussex players surviving from that final, said. "I have never been so disappointed in my life."

That is another reason why the victory at Derby was cause for rejoicing: by overhauling a total of 327, Sussex expunged their Lord's embarrassment from the record book.

Though others have contributed to Sussex's cup run, Greenfield and Rao, 28 and 22 respectively, have rightly received the acclaim. Their backgrounds could hardly be more different. Greenfield is a Sussex man born and bred, one who was unwilling to look elsewhere when first-team opportunities were slow in coming. It was not until last year, his tenth season in the game, that he received his cap.

Rao's family arrived in Britain in the early Seventies after the expulsion of Asians from Uganda by Idi Amin. His father was a good cricketer and Rao soon shone, representing Middlesex and England youth sides. However, when Middlesex tried to hold on to him without giving Rao

what he regarded as the appropriate opportunities, he moved on, joining Sussex last year. He immediately showed himself to be a fluent stroke-maker and this year has tightened his defence. He has been developing an alternative career by studying media and communications at Brighton University.

They are good friends and play for the same club side — Brighton and Hove. Their two performances were linked by Greenfield's failure in the quarter-final. It was his first-over dismissal that enabled Rao to come in and launch his match-turning assault on Malcolm.

If the opportunity presents itself on Wednesday, Rao is prepared to attack Donald in similar vein. Donald is the only Warwickshire bowler he really respects. "The rest are mix-and-match cricketers," he said. "We really fancy ourselves," Greenfield said. "There will be a big crowd at Edgbaston and they will be aggressive in their support, but this could put pressure on Warwickshire. There will be none on us."

"We will go out and enjoy it. There are some young players in our side who have not been in this situation before and you can see the excitement in their eyes."

Colwall festival keeping traditions alive

WOMEN'S CRICKET BY SARAH POTTER

IT IS festival time for the rank and file of the women's game. Cricket Week is a tradition almost as old as the Women's Cricket Association (WCA) itself and this past week, amid the chocolate-box charm oozing from the Herefordshire village of Colwall, the event has celebrated its seventieth anniversary.

In the summer of 1926, a group of hockey and lacrosse-playing women gathered at the Park Hotel in Colwall to play cricket at the nearby Elms School. The WCA was inaugurated the following October and Cricket Week officially launched in 1927.

Audrey Collins, 82, is a former president of the WCA who played her first Cricket Week in 1934, aged 19, and her last when she was 70. She now goes along as a scorer.

"It began with six teams, but grew steadily until nearly all the teams were captained by an England player," she said. No England players have been on show this year but, otherwise, the system has changed little. Players from around the country put their names forward to be selected into teams that play one another through the week.

There are only six sides this year, but Sharon Baydon, the WCA chairman, is confident that the tradition will continue. "It is still a popular event,

but it has suffered as a result of the area championships," she said. "The top players can't afford the time or money any more. What it needs is some effort to relaunch it, to keep some of the tradition, but target a new, younger market."

Collins agrees, but fondly remembers a different time. "The people who started it, like Miss Cox, the secretary, and Marjorie Pollard, a hockey international, who was one of the best women cricketers to have lived, all used to stay in the Park Hotel. The rest of us were put up in the village. I was in lodgings on The Green and when I got in after play each evening, I had a tin bath in front of the fire. Caterers

came to the grounds with their trestle tables and you could have a jolly good lunch for a shilling."

Nowadays, it is more likely to be off to the pub, but a tradition that does survive is the last-night knees-up. Each team composes a song and sings it amid general, drunken good humour at the village hall.

In what was supposed to be a showpiece opener to Cricket Week, played at Malvern College, Wakefield, the country's most successful side, defeated Wolverhampton all too easily in their National Knockout Cup semi-final. Barring first, on a pudding of a pitch, the Yorkshire side appeared to be in early difficulty, being re-

duced to 28 for three after 12 of their 40 overs. Wakefield's array of present England players seemed flustered, but their former international and England selector, Janet Tedstone, restored normal service with an unbeaten 65 to lift the score to 135 for six. It was 59 too many for Wolverhampton.

Wakefield will now play North Riding on September 14, making it certain the trophy will be polished in Yorkshire. Collins will probably be at the final, selling chocolate bars to the spectators, as she did in Malvern. It raises pocket money for the WCA, but, more important, it is just another of those traditions.

Tendulkar continues to lead from the front

SACHIN TENDULKAR celebrated his first year as India captain with an unbeaten century that steered his team out of trouble on the second day of the final Test against Sri Lanka in Colombo. Tendulkar, aged 17, not out and struck 14 boundaries as India, replying to Sri Lanka's first innings total of 332, reached 226 for four by close.

He came in when the score was nine for two and saw India slide to 126 for four soon

after tea. Sourav Ganguly, who stroked an elegant 47, shared in an unbeaten 100-run partnership for the fifth wicket with Tendulkar. Sri Lanka paid dearly for Arguna Ranatunga's captaincy, dropping Tendulkar at slip when he had made 34.

Debashish Mohanty, making his debut for India, took two of the three wickets that fell in the morning, including that of Aravinda de Silva for 146.

Gloucestershire, who would have joined Kent at the top if they had managed to take the last Somerset wicket, exemplify the twin issues at stake. Where Courtney Walsh's availability for this year became clouded, they cast around for a replacement and came up with Shaun Young. The Australian has done well enough to make the club think that they might have him back but Walsh already has a benefit booked next year.

Saturday

Britannic Assurance county championship

Kent v Essex

CANTERBURY (first day of four) Kent (1) lost Essex (2) by an innings and eight runs.

KENT: First innings 328 for 9 (1st day) M. P. Fleming 138, M. P. Fleming 108, M. P. Fleming 58, P. A. Dawson 58, G. R. Conway 58.

ESSEX: First innings 186 for 10 (1st day) M. J. McCann 4 for 81.

Second innings

*P. J. Pritchard c. E. H. H. Thompson 224

*P. J. Pritchard c. E. H. H. Thompson 224

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Northamptonshire v Worcestershire

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE (first day of four) Northamptonshire (1) lost Worcestershire (2) by an innings and 101 runs.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First innings 561 for 10 (1st day) D. A. Luff 110, S. J. Rhodes 55, S. J. Rhodes 55 for 94.

Worcestershire: First innings 661 for 10 (1st day) D. A. Luff 110, S. J. Rhodes 55, S. J. Rhodes 55 for 94.

Second innings

*P. J. Pritchard c. E. H. H. Thompson 224

*P. J. Pritchard c. E. H. H. Thompson 224

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Surrey v Durham

SURREY (first day of four) Surrey (1) lost Durham (2) by an innings and 12 runs.

SURREY: First innings 250 for 9 (1st day) D. J. Gower 74, J. J. Wood 50, J. J. Wood 4 for 73.

DURHAM: First innings 262 for 10 (1st day) D. J. Gower 74, J. J. Wood 50, J. J. Wood 4 for 73.

Second innings

*P. J. Pritchard c. E. H. H. Thompson 224

*P. J. Pritchard c. E. H. H. Thompson 224

*P. J. Pritchard c. E. H. H. Thompson 224

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*P. J. Pritchard c. E. H. H. Thompson 224

Sussex v Leicestershire

SUSSEX (first day of four) Sussex (1) lost Leicestershire (2) by an innings and 12 runs.

SUSSEX: First innings 330 for 6 (1st day) M. J. McCann 4 for 81.

Leicestershire: First innings 452 for 10 (1st day) M. J. McCann 4 for 81.

Second innings

*P. J. Pritchard c. E. H. H. Thompson 224

*P. J. Pritchard c. E. H. H. Thompson 224

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Surrey v Durham

SURREY (first day of four) Surrey (1) lost Durham (2) by an innings and 12 runs.

SURREY: First innings 250 for 9 (1st day) D. J. Gower 74, J. J. Wood 50, J. J. Wood 4 for 73.

DURHAM: First innings 262 for 10 (1st day) D. J. Gower 74, J. J. Wood 50, J. J. Wood 4 for 73.

Second innings

*P. J. Pritchard c. E. H. H. Thompson 224

*P. J. Pritchard c. E. H. H. Thompson 224

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RACING: MONAASSIB FINISHES CLOSE SECOND IN PRIX MAURICE DE GHEEST AT NORMANDY TRACK

Deauville delights to quicken the tempo

By CHRIS McGRATH

ONE mournful look at your lawn might explain why, after Goodwood, the Turf always takes a fortnight's refuge in the shadows. But this pronounced loss of tempo, at the heart of the racing calendar, instead reflects deep-rooted social rhythms — or, from the point of view of grouse, distinctly anti-social rhythms.

Likewise the fact that the next big meetings are both in

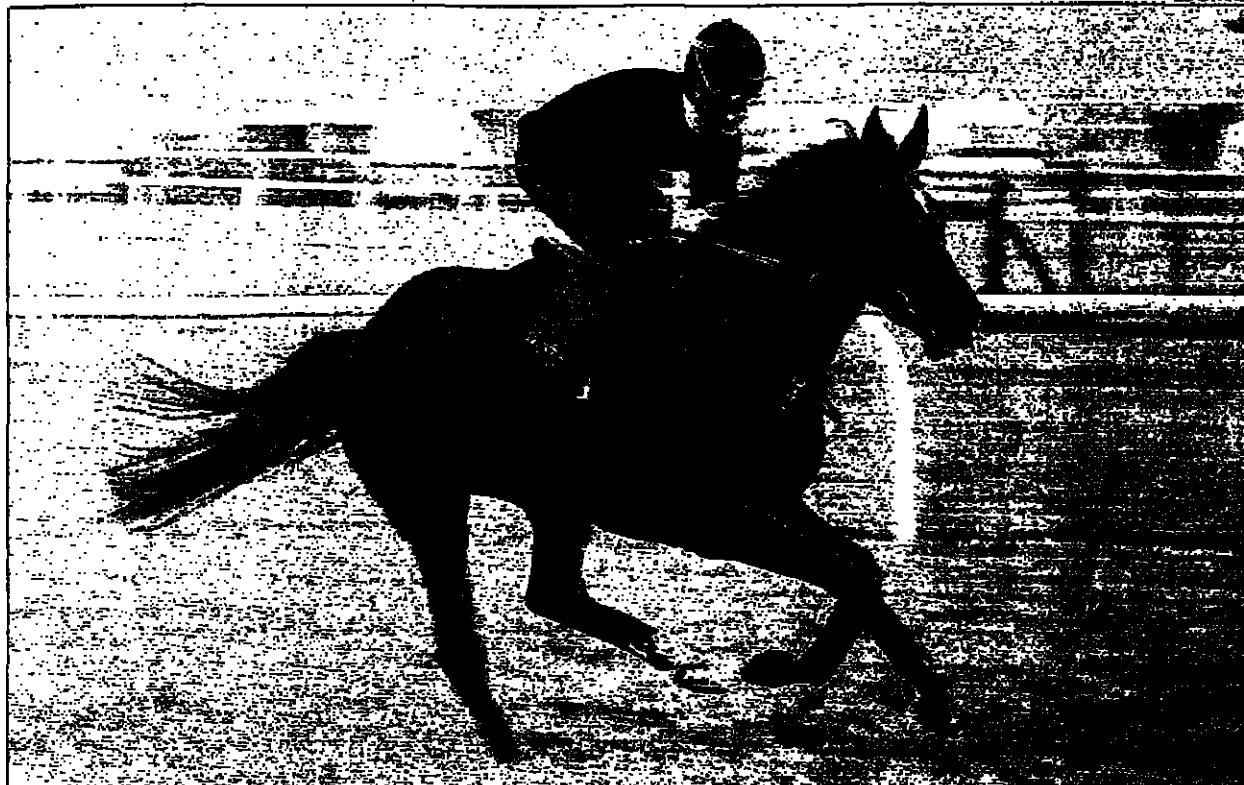
DEAUVILLE RESULT

PRIX MAURICE DE GHEEST (Group 1)
25.11.77 1611m
Going, good

1. Occupant (D. O'Connell), 2. Monassib (D. O'Connell), 3. Tils (D. O'Connell), 4. Raim (D. O'Connell), 5. Raim (D. O'Connell), 6. Raim (D. O'Connell), 7. Raim (D. O'Connell), 8. Raim (D. O'Connell), 9. Raim (D. O'Connell), 10. Raim (D. O'Connell).

the north, at York and Doncaster. For Goodwood originally marked the end of the London season, and the handily for the Ebor and St Leger fixtures then provided convenient respite from the feathery slaughter that starts on the moors tomorrow.

But there are exceptions to the torpor infecting the sport. The French circuit's August retreat to Deauville provides an elegant stage, if not a can-can, for cross-Channel raiders — such as Monassib,



Fallon puts Reams Of Verse through her paces at Newmarket before she heads for the York Ebor meeting

whose Prix Maurice de Gheest yesterday was resisted only by Occupant. The winner made all, clinging on by half a length, but Ed Dunlop declared himself delighted by Monassib's effort on ground softer than ideal. He will now train him for the Haydock Sprint Cup.

Next Sunday provides the highlight of Deauville's month, the Prix Jacques Le Marois, where Starborough, a plucky second to Al-Raiy in the Sussex Stakes, is expected to put up an even better show. "He was a bit rusty at the start," said his trainer, "but he's now sharpened his

up," David Loder, his trainer, said yesterday. Loder does not accept the theory that Starborough set up his own defeat by going off too fast, observing that he sustained his gallop to the line; he instead believes that the course was too sharp. Either way, the straight mile at

Deauville may not be ideal for Starborough either, as Loder believed him to improve on his 2,000 Guineas fourth when able to race round a bend at Chantilly and Ascot.

Also hard at labour are those required to be on their mettle for York, like Bosra Sham and Benny The Dip.

Reams Of Verse won the Musidora Stakes, over the Juddmonte course and distance, by 11 lengths. Should her owner overrule his trainer, the Knavesmire could provide Fallon, the stable jockey, with a delicious opportunity to beat Bosra Sham. Fallon lost the race on Cecil's most treasured charge after she was beaten at Sandown last month.

Princely Heir's success proves costly for Weaver

FROM OUR IRISH RACING CORRESPONDENT AT LEOPOLDSTOWN

PRINCELY HEIR sprang a 120-lb surprise when beating the Godolphin-owned favourite, Asfurah, in the Heinz 57 Phoenix Stakes at Leopardstown yesterday, but victory came at a cost to his jockey, Jason Weaver, who will miss the big York three-day future after picking up a four-day whip ban.

The two British-trained horses

dominated the finish of Europe's first group one juvenile event of the season after collaring the free-running Hopping Higgins inside the final furling. Weaver took a decisive advantage on Princely Heir and Asfurah could never quite get to grips with the Mark Johnston-trained colt.

"It was a fairly late decision to come here but when I saw Aidan [O'Brien] had half the entries, I thought somebody should have a try and take him on," Johnston said.

That have-a-go attitude worked out perfectly with only Weaver's ban for excessive use of the whip slightly spoiling the party. "It's disappoint-

ing but I won't be appealing against the decision," Weaver said. "I was always confident of catching Hopping Higgins because she is a five-furling filly. My fellow was feeling the ground and was ducking in behind the filly, but he did it well," the winning jockey added.

Asfurah was running on strongly at the finish and Frankie Dettori said: "It took a while to get organised. This was our first run against colts and she is still

Weaver completed a fine double in the group three Phoenix Sprint, when cooing Cretan Gift to over-haul Asfurah in this six-furlong contest. Cretan Gift was the first group runner for Nick Littmenden, 34, who trains at Wolverhampton. Cretan Gift ran last of four at Chester last Sunday, but Littmenden explained: "Things just did not go right for him and he has been so well since that we were quite hopeful today. We might consider the Ayr Gold Cup next."

THIRSK

THUNDERER
6.05 Mubwa, 6.35 Foot Battalion, 7.05 Ray Of Sunshine, 7.35 Ollie's Chickadee, 8.05 Silent Miracle, 8.35 Hasta La Vista.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (FIRM IN PLACES)
DRAW: 5F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

6.05 WEST YORKSHIRE SELLING HANDICAP

(£2,000 1m) (18 runners)

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Vaulting ambition offers route to all-round success

By JOHN GOODBODY



IN SCHOOLS

FEW sports have been so shamefully ignored in many British schools as gymnastics. During the 1930s, apparatus was actually destroyed by officials of the London County Council in the misguided belief that the movements required on equipment such as the rings, high bar, parallel bars might make the children "muscle bound".

Its associations with Germany have not helped. Two world wars did not end German activities to the British public and much of gymnastic development derived from the work of Johann Friedrich Jahn in the 19th century. The word "gymnasium" also means, in German, a secondary or grammar school.

It is, therefore, no wonder that Great Britain has not won an Olympic medal in the sport since 1928. However, even worse has been the failure of many schools to use the movement of gymnastics as a basis of physical education. The qualities acquired through training can easily be transferred to so many other activities.

Things are different at All Hallows, Somerset. Here, the dedicated and enlightened attitude of Moira Thompson has not only helped the preparatory school to victory this year in the national under-13 team championships, but has also provided the basis for success in other sports.

As Thompson said: "Gymnastics is so important for children. Unlike other physical activities, such as strength, stamina and skill, you cannot acquire agility and suppleness so well when you are older." By teaching youngsters to tumble, twist in the air and somersault, their ability in other sports is immediately enhanced. This training is not something that they can achieve nearly so readily later in life.

Chris Bird, the headmaster and former centre three-quarter for Bath and Somerset, said: "In rugby, we do not often have many boys of huge size and strength, so we concentrate on producing balanced runners who have a

spewich, where she plays hockey, netball and rounders, believes that her gymnastic background at All Hallows has aided her in those sports at secondary level. So does Mark Byrne, a leading member of the successful All Hallows gymnastics team this year and the South West schools' under-13 champion in the 80 metres hurdles and long jump.

He also plays in the centre for the school rugby union team and finds that, when he takes a tackle, his gymnastics training is of great value. "You are so used to falling and have learnt to roll. It simply does not hurt as much when you hit the ground," he said.

Thompson is convinced of the value of gymnastics training. "You can see how much it helps children in both their confidence and body movements," she said. "Gymnastics training should be on the curriculum of every school."

Thompson has always wanted to be a PE teacher. "When I went to secondary school in Dorsetshire and went rushing across the gymnasium floor with bean bags, I knew what I wanted to do." Her approach to gymnastics was transformed when she began studying at Dunfermline College of Physical Education and was thrilled by the expertise of other students. "They were totally confident in what they wanted to do."

After a spell teaching in Jamaica, where she helped the early athletic development of Merlene Ottey, the celebrated sprinter, she returned to teach in British state schools. She complains that she never had the chance of instructing gymnastics as part of the curriculum until she went to All Hallows, where she is director of sport and head of girls' games.

Girls are also encouraged to take up ballet. "Some think it is luddy-duddy, but when they get into it they really enjoy it." Floor exercises have, of course, close associations with ballet. One former pupil, Patricia Moxey, age 14, who is now at the Royal Hospital School at



Gaining confidence on the bar is an early requirement for young gymnasts

SPEEDWAY

Hancock's hopes go up in flames

GREG HANCOCK'S British Grand Prix hopes went up in flames before the meeting had even started on Saturday evening (Tony Hoare writes). The world championship leader was already at Bradford's Odsal Stadium when the van carrying his bikes caught fire on its way to the stadium.

The blaze wrecked his No 1 bike as well as his tools and many parts, but the passengers — mechanics and friends of Hancock — all escaped without injury.

"The main thing is that everybody got out and nobody was injured," Hancock said. "I can replace my bike and all that stuff, but I can't replace my friends."

Hancock finished seventh and saw his lead in the world championship standings cut to seven points as Brian Andersen, his Coventry teammate, grabbed a silky victory to move into second place overall.

Andersen, the Danish rider, recovered from a shed chain in his opening outing to glide to five consecutive wins and take his first-ever grand prix victory. The world junior cham-

pion of six years ago, Andersen has replaced Hans Nielsen as Denmark's chief contender in the world championship race.

Nielsen, four times the world champion, was left out of the running in Bradford after an aggressive piece of riding from the reigning champion, Billy Hamill, sent him back to last place in the nineteenth heat. His eleventh place puts him 19 points behind Hancock in the standings.

Hamill's move, and other controversial rides from the usually popular American, inspired cries of derision from the busy Bradford terraces. Hamill defended his style, saying: "I didn't mean to be so hard on Hans, but once I had committed, I had to go for it, especially with a world championship at stake."

"I learnt a lot of that from Hans Nielsen himself. I have studied videos of him and he has done that many times." Hamill's runners-up spot place leaves him joint-second with Andersen in the overall rankings. Jimmy Nilsson took third place.

THE TIMES

KICK OFF

Haydock Park

Going good to firm
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Law Report August 11 1997 Court of Appeal

Names who reject Lloyd's renewal plan still liable for premiums

Society of Lloyd's v Lyon Same v Leighs Same v Wilkinson

Before Lord Justice Saville, Lord Justice Ward and Lord Justice Phillips

[Judgment July 31]

Lloyd's names who rejected the reconstruction and renewal plan by Lloyd's for the voluntary global settlement of claims in respect of business written in or before 1992 were, nevertheless, liable to pay premiums pursuant to a reinsurance and run-off contract concluded as part of that plan.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment dismissing the appeals of the defendant names Geoffrey Lyon, Dennis Leighs and David Wilkinson, against decisions of Mr Justice Colman in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division on February 29 and April 24 giving summary judgment for the plaintiffs, the Society of Lloyd's, and declaring that the names were liable to pay premiums pursuant to a reinsurance and run-off contract concluded as part of the society's reconstruction and renewal plan which the names had rejected.

215 Canadian names, who had also rejected the plan, intervened in the actions, which were test cases.

Mr Simon Goldblatt, QC and Mr Vincent Nelson for the names; Mr Anthony Grahame, QC, Mr Richard Jacobs and Mr David Foxton for Lloyd's; Mr Alan Lenzner, QC of the Ontario Bar, and Mr Craig Orr for the Canadian names.

LORD JUSTICE SAVILLE, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appeals raised fundamental questions as to the efficacy of the complex scheme under which the Society of Lloyd's

had set out to resolve the avalanche of litigation that had been threatening to destroy the Lloyd's market and many who traded in it.

That scheme, the reconstruction and renewal plan, involved a voluntary global settlement of claims of various descriptions made by and against names in respect of business written in or before 1992 coupled with a reinsurance and run-off contract, in the nature of a global reinsurance to close, with a group of companies formed specifically for that purpose the Equitas contract.

Lloyd's had purported to procure that all names with actual or potential liabilities in respect of non-life business written in or before 1992 were party to the Equitas contract.

If Lloyd's had succeeded in that, names who had declined to take part in the reconstruction and renewal settlement were, none the less, liable to pay premiums for the Society of Lloyd's, provided by Equitas. Equitas had assigned the right to such premiums to the society.

The Equitas contract Each of the names had entered into a standard form agreement with the society, the general undertaking, which included an undertaking by the name to comply with the provisions of Lloyd's Act 1871 to 1982 and any subordinate legislation made thereunder and to become a party to and perform all the obligations of any agreement as might be prescribed by or under the authority of the Council of Lloyd's.

The society contended that the general undertaking had enabled the council, by the use of its statutory powers, to procure that all names were party to the Equitas contract.

Section 6(2) of the Lloyd's Act

1982 gave the council the power to make such bylaws as seemed requisite or expedient for the proper and better execution of Lloyd's Act 1871 to 1982 and for the furtherance of the objects of the society.

Pursuant to that power, the council made Bylaw No 20 of 1983, empowering the council to appoint a substitute agent to take over the whole or any part of a member's underwriting business and to give directions to both the substitute agent and the member in relation to the underwriting business taken over.

Pursuant to that bylaw, on September 2, 1994, the council appointed a substitute agent, AUA 9, a company owned and indirectly controlled by Lloyd's, to take over all non-life business written in or before 1992 for all names.

AUA 9 was directed to give effect to the reconstruction and renewal plan. Provision for that plan had been made by Bylaw No 22 of 1995. More particularly, AUA 9 was directed to enter into the reinsurance and run-off contract with Equitas on behalf of each name. That AUA 9 had purported to do.

The defendants had mounted three challenges to the scheme, each of which they contended provided an independent defence to the society's claim.

1 The scope of the venture The names contended that the scheme effected a fundamental principle of underwriting as Lloyd's, which was that it should be carried out without mutualisation.

Broadly, the point made was that the Equitas contract involved the pooling of reserves held by or on behalf of individual names to meet their individual liabilities, and of premiums levied on individual names, and the use of the pool

to discharge the liabilities of all the names.

At the end of the day a surplus might be shared out among the names, or some names might find themselves under residual liability to policy holders, but in neither case would the end result reflect each name's individual liability to policy holders in respect of the business written on behalf of each name. That, it was contended, offended against the prohibition on mutualisation enshrined in section 8(1) of the Lloyd's Act 1982.

However, section 8(1) was directed solely to the writing of insurance business at Lloyd's, not to contracts which the names might conclude thereafter which were ancillary to such business.

The Equitas contract was such a contract. It had been concluded to provide for the discharge of the insurance liabilities underwritten by names in and before 1992 in due conformity with the requirements of section 8(1).

The Equitas scheme did not derogate from the principle that each name remained primarily liable to policy holders in respect of the business written by that name and in respect of that business alone.

Their Lordships could not see that agreements or arrangements which involved names in making mutual provision against the risk of individual default were in conflict with or outside the scope of the venture of an insurance business as contemplated by section 8(1) of the Lloyd's Act 1982.

Reconstruction and renewal, and in particular the Equitas scheme, was not simply designed to provide cover against the risk of individual default. It had a much more fundamental object to settle intractable litigation and to avoid the need to put the whole of Lloyd's into run-off.

In short, a primary object of the scheme, if not the primary object, had been to save Lloyd's itself, for the benefit of its members. It was hard to see how it could be argued that the scheme had not been requisite or expedient to the proper and better execution of Lloyd's Act 1871 to 1982 and for the furtherance of the objects of the society.

Their Lordships were in no doubt that Bylaw 22 of 1995 fell fairly and squarely within the society's powers and that the directions given to implement it were validly given.

2 Rescission

The names alleged that they had been induced to join Lloyd's by misrepresentation, fraudulently made by the society. The society challenged that allegation, but accepted that its claim to summary judgment had to be advanced on the premise that the allegation of fraud was valid.

The names claimed that they had rescinded the contract under which they entered into the general undertaking. The society contended that rescission was not possible and that the only remedy open to the names was to claim damages for deceit.

Some of the names who relied on rescission had purported to rescind their membership of the society after the Equitas contract was concluded. Others had purported to do so before.

The act of rescission avoided the contract retroactively ab initio and could only take place provided that it was possible to restore the parties to substantially the same position that they were in before the contract was concluded and that rescission would not harm the rights of third parties.

If rescission were to have the effect contended for by the names it

would prejudice third parties. It was not merely the fact that third parties would be adversely affected but the manner in which that would come about that could not be reconciled with the principles governing rescission.

The names contended that the effect of rescission was to withdraw, retroactively, the authority of AUA 9 to contract for the names so that contracts concluded by AUA 9 with Equitas at a time when AUA 9 had authority were retroactively invalidated.

Their Lordships knew of no case where rescission had invalidated a contract with a third party in that way and they did not believe that such a result could be accommodated within established legal principles.

There was a more general and equally fundamental reason why it was not open to names to rescind their general undertakings. Membership of Lloyd's was the foundation of the insurance business that had been carried on by names, and must necessarily be carried on by them until all their liabilities to policy holders were discharged.

Membership of Lloyd's was essential if the names were not to infringe the provisions of section 20 of the Insurance Companies Act 1982. Those forbade unauthorised persons to carry on insurance business in the United Kingdom.

Authorisation had only been granted to individuals who were members of Lloyd's. In practice, the names had only been able to conduct insurance business and would only be able to run-off that business by taking advantage of the complex structure of the Lloyd's market which enabled policy holders to transact business as if with a corporate entity rather than with a large number of individuals.

The rules and regulations of Lloyd's had enabled that business to be transacted on behalf of and with the authority of the names. It was fundamentally incompatible with the business that had been carried on for names to withdraw, retroactively, from membership of Lloyd's.

It was impossible to sever the contracts under which the names became members of Lloyd's from the business that had been carried on, and the contracts that had been concluded, by virtue of that membership. Rescission in integrum was impossible.

So far as rescission ab initio was concerned, those considerations applied just as much to names who had purported to rescind before the Equitas contract was concluded as to those who did so after that event.

Their Lordships had considered whether it was arguable that names who had purported to rescind their general undertakings before the Equitas contract was concluded thereby terminated their membership of Lloyd's so that the council had no authority over or on behalf of them thereafter.

Their Lordships were not aware of any principle of law which permitted a party to terminate a party performed contract on the ground that the conclusion of the contract was induced by fraud in circumstances where rescission of the contract was impossible.

3 Set-off etc

Clause 5.5 of the Equitas contract provided that each name should pay his premium "free and clear from any set-off, counterclaim or other deduction in respect of any claim against" Lloyd's or any other person whatsoever.

The question was whether that had the effect of preventing the non-accepting names from resisting payment to the society, as assignee, of the premium due from them, on the ground that, on the assumption made, the society was liable to them in damages for fraud.

It was absolutely clear that clause 5.5 did operate so as to prevent the non-accepting names from raising claims against the society in answer to a claim by the society, as assignee, for the name's premium.

The fact that the claims of the non-accepting names against the society were in fraud did not assist the names. Given the all-embracing language used in the clause, the fact that, to all intents and purposes, the only claims of any relevance against the society by names that could fall outside the statutory immunity in section 14 of the Lloyd's Act 1982 would be claims of acting in bad faith, and the fact that allegations of bad faith were being made by names before and at the time the agreement was made, everything pointed to the conclusion that the clause was intended to cover such claims.

The clause did not seek to exclude or limit liability for fraud. Its purpose was to insure recovery of the premium from claims by those who owed the premium.

Their Lordships knew of no principle of law that should lead them to construe the words of the clause so as to exclude from its ambit any claim based or allegedly based on fraud.

The result, which would come as a bitter blow to the defendants and those in their position, was that the appeal must be dismissed.

Solicitors: Epstein Grower & Michael Freeman; Freshfields; Warner Cranston.

Distributing deceased name's estate

Stone and Another v Chataway and Another

Before Mr Justice Lindsay

[Judgment July 8]

Personal representatives of a deceased name at Lloyd's with open Equitas, who wished to rely on Equitas, would only obtain complete freedom from risk of personal liability in respect of those years if they obtained and acted upon the sanction of the court, which would attempt a fair balance between the injustice of beneficiaries being kept out of benefit on account of beneficiaries' debts and the risk of contingent creditors finding matured debts unpaid.

Mr Justice Lindsay so held in the Chancery Division in giving the judgment in the appeals of the plaintiffs, the executors and trustees of the late Richard Michael York, QC, a member of syndicates at Lloyd's until his death in 1991, liberty to distribute his estate without further retention, and appointing Lady Carol Cech Chataway as representative of beneficiaries under his will, and Mr Giles Neville Clarke as representative of all persons contingently interested in the benefit of contracts of insurance to which such syndicates were parties.

Mr Christopher McCall, QC and Mrs Warnock-Smith for the plaintiffs; Miss Alexandra Mason for Lady Chataway; Mr W. R. Stewart-Smith for Mr Clarke.

MR JUSTICE LINDSAY said that the difficulties of names at Lloyd's were notorious. The executors wished to make as early a distribution of the estate to beneficiaries as possible but acknowledged that there were potential claims whose size they could no more estimate than whether or

when they might arise. Each Lloyd's year was, in a sense, an annual venture, and the accounts were only calculated at the end of the third year, when claims, or the possibility of claims were likely to exist.

To achieve finality at the end of each three-year period, normal practice was for names to pay a premium to another syndicate to take over outstanding rights and liabilities: reinsurance to close ("RITC"). Years which were not closed, or had no RITC, stayed open years and a creditor of a beneficiary, in priority to whose debt a legacy had been paid to his detriment, could make the executor personally liable for his loss.

Mr Clarke, another name and the representative creditor, had RITC for one of his own years from a syndicate of which Mr York, whose estate now enjoyed reinsurance from Equitas, which gained final authorisation from the Department of Trade and Industry in September 1996, had been a member.

Should Equitas fail, liability would revert to the relevant names in which, even a number of remedies or palliatives might suffice to head off claims by policy holders, including the implementation of a proportionate cover plan: the proposal of a scheme under section 425 of the Companies Act 1985 and recovery by policy holders to deposits required by regulatory authorities in other jurisdictions.

Beyond those, there would be strong pressure on Lloyd's to inject funds into Equitas to ensure that its obligations were met.

Mr York's last year of account had been 1990. His outstanding

open years were 1985 (one syndicate), 1989 (two) and 1990 (2). Calls of over £275,000 on those had been paid in full, save that one, the largest, had been reinsured into Equitas.

There was unchallenged evidence that his executors were only likely to face liabilities in the event of Equitas's total failure.

Must they remain open, indefinitely, to meet such potential, possible, maximum total liability (RITC), unfair to beneficiaries? Or could they now distribute, on the basis that creditors' protection via Equitas was commercially appropriate?

His Lordship reviewed the relevant provisions of the Insurance Companies Act 1982, summarised Equitas's report and accounts up to September 4, 1996, disclosing £10.8 billion of claims reserves and a surplus of assets over liabilities of £588 million after prudent provision, outlined reservations expressed thereon by Coopers & Lybrand, and recorded unchallenged evidence from an eminent accountant to the effect that it was to be inferred that they "did not consider that there was a significant level of concern about Equitas's ability, in the foreseeable future, to continue as a going concern".

He continued that the law concerning executors' duty to retain funds against contingent liabilities had often been criticised and contradictions abounded. In summary, the position was as follows:

1 Distribution pursuant to a court order afforded complete protection.

2 The court would enable personal representatives to set apart a reasonable sum to cover any

liability which might in any reasonable probability arise by reason of a future breach of covenants in a lease held by the deceased: *Dobson v Carpenter* (1850) 12 Beav 730.

3 If the possibility of some contingent debt maturing came to an executor's notice, he could retain an appropriate sum pursuant to the court's direction, gaining immunity from devaluation, or (b) otherwise, whether out of the estate or by way of security from a beneficiary, but gaining no immunity.

Applying those principles, there was good reason for the court, on the facts of Mr York's case, to sanction distribution to legatees without the executors requiring either any retention out of the estate, or any particular security beyond the personal security of the executors, should debts, unsatisfied by Equitas, emerge.

On the evidence before his Lordship and approaching the question of Equitas's adequacy in a practical and businesslike way, he was entitled to hold that there was at present no reason to think Equitas likely to fail and it was right to regard it as a sufficient and proper provision.

However, although his Lordship would have wished to proffer guidance of such a nature as to obviate the costs and delay of applications to court by other names' executors, and although such executors could reasonably choose to rely on Equitas alone, it could not be wrong for them to insist upon the court's protection before distributing any vulnerable name's estate.

Solicitors: Reynolds Porter Chamberlain.

Employee entitled to damages

Hailstones v Staffordshire County Council

A local authority employee

subjecting to a disciplinary hearing resulting in findings of misconduct who agreed to a job transfer as an alternative to dismissal was, following a successful appeal against the findings, entitled to claim damages for breach of contract against the local authority for its refusal to allow him to return to his original place of work.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Roch and Lord Justice Phillips) so held on July 7 following an appeal by the employee, Mr Paul Hailstones, from a judgment of Mr Recorder Saunders, QC, given in Staffordshire County Council in September 1996, that had held that Staffordshire County Council was entitled to require the employee to continue to work at a place to which he was transferred without imposing any extra expense on it.

LORD JUSTICE ROCH said that under the local authority's disciplinary procedure the employee's agreement to be transferred from Hailstones to Stafford was appropriate only in circumstances where, in the absence of such agreement, dismissal was the alternative action.

Following his successful appeal against the findings of misconduct the circumstances for the sanction of transfer by agreement ceased to exist and the local authority did not have the contractual right to require the employee to continue having to work at Stafford.

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On those grounds the European Court ruled:

Where national legislation was concerned with a situation which, as in the present case, did not fall within the field of application of Community law, the Court of Justice could not, in a reference for a preliminary ruling, give the interpretative guidance necessary for the national court to determine whether that national legislation was in conformity with the fundamental rights whose observance the court ensured, such as those deriving in particular from the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

It followed that the applicable national legislation related to a situation which did not fall within the field of application of Community law.

On those grounds the European Court ruled:

Where national legislation was concerned with a situation which, as in the present case, did not fall within the field of application of Community law, the Court of Justice could not, in a reference for a preliminary ruling, give the interpretative guidance necessary for the national court to determine whether that national legislation was in conformity with the fundamental rights whose observance the court ensured, such as those deriving in particular from the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

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Accordingly, a national of a non-member country married to a worker having the nationality of a member state could not rely on the right conferred by article 11 of Regulation 1612/68 when that worker had never exercised the right to freedom of movement within the Community.

European Law Report

Community court cannot rule on human rights

Kremzow v Republik Österreich

Case C-293/95

Before J. C. Moitinho de Almeida, President of Fifth Chamber, Judges C. Gulmann, D. A. O. Edwards, J.-P. Pissachet and P. Jann

Advocate General A. La Pergola (Opinion February 11)

[Judgment May 29]

Although fundamental human rights formed an integral part of the general principles of Community law, the Court of Justice of the European Communities could not give interpretative guidance for determining whether national legislation was in conformity with the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (1953) (Cmd 9190) where the legislation concerned fell within the field of application of Community law.

The European Court of Justice so held on a reference for a preliminary ruling under article 177 of the EC Treaty by the Oberster Gerichtshof (Supreme Court), Austria.

Mr Friedrich Kremzow, a retired judge of Austrian nationality, confessed to the murder in Austria of an Austrian lawyer, but subsequently retracted the confession.

In 1984 he was found guilty of murder and unlawful possession of a firearm and sentenced to 20 years imprisonment in an institution for mentally ill criminals.

In appeal proceedings held in the absence of Mr Kremzow, who had not requested to attend and whose presence had not been ordered by the court of its own motion, the verdict was upheld but the sentence was changed to life imprisonment in an ordinary prison.

By judgment of September 21, 1993 in *Kremzow v Austria* (Series A, No 265-B), the European Court of Human Rights held that article 6 of the Convention on Human Rights of November 4, 1950 had been violated as, given the gravity of the matter, Mr Kremzow ought to have been allowed to defend

himself in person before the appeal court in accordance with article 6(3)(b), notwithstanding his failure to make a request to that effect.

Mr Kremzow then brought proceedings for, inter alia, a reduction in his sentence, and damages pursuant to article 5(1) of the Convention, which he argued, conferred a right to compensation on anyone who had been detained contrary to the provisions of article 5(1) to (4).

He also asked the local court to seek from the Court of Justice a preliminary ruling on whether the national court was bound by the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights.

The Oberster Gerichtshof asked whether the provisions of the Convention formed part of Community law by reason of article 10 of the EC Treaty, with the result that the Court of Justice could give a preliminary ruling on their interpretation pursuant to article 177, and, in the event of an affirmative answer to that question, further questions concerning articles 5 and 6 of the Convention.

Article 104 of the Treaty provided: "The Court of Justice shall ensure that in the interpretation and application of this Treaty the law is observed."

In its judgment the Fifth Chamber of the European Court of Justice held:

Mr Kremzow argued that the Court of Justice had jurisdiction to answer the questions referred because, as a citizen of the European Union, he enjoyed the right to free movement of persons within the Community set out in article 5a of the Treaty.

Since any citizen was entitled to move freely in the territory of the member states without any specific intention to reside, he said, a state which infringed that right by executing an unlawful penalty of imprisonment must be held liable in damages by virtue of Community law.

Fundamental rights formed an integral part of the general principles of Community law whose observance the Court of Justice

ensured. For that purpose, the court drew inspiration from, inter alia, the guidelines and principles of international treaties, and the Convention had special significance in that respect.

It followed that measures were not acceptable in the Community which were incompatible with the observance of the human rights thus recognised and guaranteed.

Further, where national legislation fell within the field of application of Community law, the Court of Justice, in a reference for a preliminary ruling, had to give the national court the guidance as to interpretation necessary to enable it to assess the compatibility of that legislation with fundamental rights, as laid down in particular in the Convention.

However, the Court had no such jurisdiction with regard to national

legislation lying outside the scope of Community law.

Mr Kremzow's situation was not connected in any way with any of the situations contemplated by the Treaty provisions on free movement of persons.

While any deprivation of liberty could impede the person concerned from exercising his right to free movement, a purely hypothetical prospect of exercising that right did not establish a sufficient connection with Community law to justify the application of Community provisions.

Moreover, Mr Kremzow had been sentenced for murder and illegal possession of a firearm under provisions of national law which were not designed to secure compliance with rules of Community law.

Article 11 provides: "Where a national of a member state is pursuing an activity as an employed or self-employed person in the territory of another member state, his spouse and (certain children) shall have the right to take up any activity as an employed person throughout the territory of that same state, even if they are not nationals of any member state."

The Court said that Community rules on freedom of movement could not be applied to cases all elements of which were purely internal to a single member state.

Luxembourg

EC law no assistance to spouse

Land Nordrhein-Westfalen v Uecker

Joined Cases C-64/96 and C-65/96

A member of the family of a worker who was a national of a member state could not rely on Community law to challenge the validity of a limitation on the duration of his or her contract of employment in that state when the worker had never exercised the right to freedom of movement within the Community.

The Third Chamber of the Court of Justice of the European Communities so held on June 5 in two joined cases on a reference by the Landesarbeitsgericht (Higher Labour Court), Hamm, under article 177 of the EC Treaty for a preliminary ruling on the interpretation of, inter alia, article 11 of Regulation (EEC) No 1612/68 of the Council of October 15, 1968 on freedom of movement for workers within the Community (OJ English Special Edition 1968 (II) p 673).

In the proceedings, the plaintiffs,

of Norwegian and Russian nationality, respectively, who lived in Germany and were married to German husbands who exercised a professional trade or activity in Germany, challenged the inclusion, in their contracts of employment as foreign-language assistants with two universities, of a provision that the contracts were only for a limited period, as was permitted by a German law applying to foreign-language assistants.

Article 11 provides: "Where a national of a member state is pursuing an activity as an employed or self-employed person in the territory of another member state, his spouse and (certain children) shall have the right to take up any activity as an employed person throughout the territory of that same state, even if they are not nationals of any member state."

The Court said that Community rules on freedom of movement could not be applied to cases all elements of which were purely internal to a single member state.

On those grounds the European Court ruled:

Where national legislation was concerned with a situation which, as in the present case, did not fall within the field of application of Community law, the Court of Justice could not, in a reference for a preliminary ruling, give the interpretative guidance necessary for the national court to determine whether that national legislation was in conformity with the fundamental rights whose observance the court ensured, such as those deriving in particular from the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

Sentence while on licence

Regina v Taylor (Adrian Edward)

Before Lord Justice Rose and Mr Justice Jowitt

[Judgment July 29]

When sentencing an offender convicted of committing an offence while on licence from an earlier sentence, the court must first determine the appropriate sentence for the new offence, disregarding the possibility of reactivating the original sentence.

In then considering whether to reactivate that sentence, the court should have regard to any progress made by the defendant since his release on licence, the interval between release and the commission of the new offence, the gravity of the new offence and the totality of the two sentences.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held in a reserved judgment when reducing from one year and nine days to six months the sentence on Adrian Edward Taylor, imposed at Chelmsford

Crown Court by Mr Recorder Colin Hart-Leverton QC, under section 40 of the Criminal Justice Act 1991, being the unexpired portion of a previous sentence of 3½ years.

Mr Benjamin Squirell, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant.

LORD JUSTICE ROSE, giving the judgment of the court, said that there was no authority which dealt with the considerations which a court should have in mind when deciding whether and how to reactivate the powers conferred by section 40 of the 1991 Act.

In the court's judgment, the sentencing tribunal must first decide what was the appropriate sentence for the new offence, so that it received the sentence which it merited. The possibility of an order for return must be disregarded at that stage.

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

[illegible]

RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: Kade International. Finals: none scheduled. Economic statistics: July producer prices, US Treasury auction of short-term T-bills.

TOMORROW

Interims: BOC (q3), Colt Telecom Group (q2), Easyjet Group, Epwin Group, General Accident, Glynnwed Inter-national, Holliday Chemical, Morgan Sindall, Sedgwick Group, Smith & Nephew. Finals: VDC. Economic statistics: BRC July retail sales survey, July retail prices index.

WEDNESDAY

Interims: BICC, Flying Flowers, General Consolidated, Independent Insurance Group, Life Offices Opportunities Trust, Millennium & Copthorne, Rosebys. Finals: Games Workshop Group. Economic statistics: July jobs figures, June average earnings, minutes of July Bank of England monetary policy meeting, Bank of England quarterly inflation report.

THURSDAY

Interims: Freepages Group (q3), Hanson (q3), MAID, Micro Focus Group, Orange, WPP Group, Xenova Group. Finals: Kleinwort High Income, Media Business Group. Economic statistics: None scheduled for release in UK. US Treasury auction of 52-week T-bills.

FRIDAY

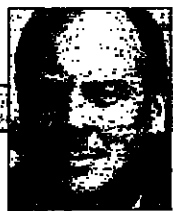
Interims: Alliance & Leicester, Crown Eyeglass, Flextech, LIX Oil & Gas, Johnson Group Cleaners. Finals: none scheduled. Economic statistics: None scheduled for release in UK.

TOURIST RATES

| | Bank Buys | Bank Sells |
|-----------------|-----------|------------|
| Australia \$ | 2.26 | 2.08 |
| Austria Sch | 21.56 | 18.50 |
| Belgium Fr | 63.64 | 56.50 |
| Canada \$ | 2.18 | 2.10 |
| Cyprus Cyp£ | 0.583 | 0.521 |
| Denmark Kr | 11.71 | 10.82 |
| Finland Mk | 6.28 | 5.53 |
| France Fr | 10.32 | 9.54 |
| Germany DM | 3.08 | 2.84 |
| Greece Dr | 484 | 445 |
| Hong Kong \$ | 13.00 | 11.80 |
| Iceland | 127 | 107 |
| Ireland Pt | 1.15 | 1.08 |
| Israel Sh | 5.88 | 5.25 |
| Italy Lira | 2029 | 2792 |
| Japan Yen | 186.83 | 182.10 |
| Netherlands Gld | 0.938 | 0.900 |
| New Zealand \$ | 3.483 | 3.188 |
| Norway Kr | 12.82 | 11.80 |
| Portugal Esc | 306.03 | 286.00 |
| S Africa Rd | 5.09 | 4.713 |
| Spain Ptas | 287.78 | 286.00 |
| Sweden Kr | 13.36 | 12.26 |
| Switzerland Fr | 2.54 | 2.34 |
| Turkey Lira | 267.157 | 247.275 |
| USA \$ | 1.883 | 1.540 |

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

COMPANIES



MICHAEL SMITH

Orange likely to ring up lower losses



Hans Snook wants 96 per cent countrywide coverage for Orange by the end of the year

ORANGE GROUP: Britain's fastest growing mobile phone operator reports half-year figures on Thursday that will show the progress it is making in reducing its start-up losses.

In the same period last year, Orange made net losses (it does not yet pay tax) of £125 million, or 10.4p a share, before notching up a deficit for the year of £229 million. This time round, estimates range from £73 million to £103 million. Analysts said attention will focus on the impact of changes made earlier this year to the incoming interconnect rate charged when calls are made to Orange phones from BT.

John Jensen, of Salmon Brothers, says the group is unlikely to turn in a profit until next year at the earliest and, more likely, 1999. Orange is certainly moving towards the black, but it is a slow process.

It is now the third largest cellular network operator, with 980,000 subscribers at the last count in June. But it remains way behind Vodafone, with 2.92 million subscribers, and Cellnet, with 2.76 million.

Its network now covers 92 per cent of the country and it is the aim of Hans Snook, managing director, to extend this to 96 per cent by the year end. Hutchison Whampoa remains its biggest shareholder, with almost 50 per cent, while British Aerospace continues to hold 22 per cent.

BOC GROUP: The shares ended the week on a high note after the admission from Zeneca that it is interested in buying Ohmeda, the group's healthcare business, which could fetch £1 billion.

But third-quarter figures tomorrow are likely to reveal the scars of unfavourable currency movements. Pre-tax profits are expected to be marginally ahead at £112 million, compared with £109 million last time.

NatWest Securities says that underlying volume growth in gas is expected to have continued at a reasonable rate—a point reinforced by recent reports from other US and European gas producers.

Order books at Edwards, the vacuum business, are showing signs of revival and the news should be fairly bullish. The performance of the distribution division is likely to reflect a buoyant economy, with Marks & Spencer recently announcing the

expansion of its food retail operation.

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER: Like the Woolwich, its recently converted rival, this newcomer to the banking sector is likely to offer only modest underlying growth when it reports on Friday.

Interim pre-tax profits are expected to be in the region of £158.5 million after exceptional conversion and reorganisation costs of £44 million. This compares with £8.6 million of costs in the first half of last year.

Credit Lyonnais Laing forecasts earnings per share of 16.2p, with a maiden interim dividend of 6.3p, one third of that for the year. With surplus capital of £725 million, the Alliance & Leicester is expected to use some of it for

acquisitions, with a further portion earmarked for a special dividend. CLL estimates that if half the surplus cash is returned to shareholders the payout could be worth 62p a share.

BICC: Losses at Ceat Cavi, its Italian cables subsidiary, prompted brokers to downgrade their half-year figures, due out on Wednesday, some time ago. Henderson Crosthwaite was one such broker, reducing its pre-tax profit figure by 10 per cent from £62.7 million to £55.7 million.

At the time of the annual meeting in May, BICC reported that purchases by ENEL, the Italian state-controlled electricity company, were 30 per cent down on the previous year. This would result in something like a £10

million to £12 million reversal in operating profits this time round. Meanwhile, brokers will want to know about the group's rationalisation programme. The possibility of further cost cutting also threatens the group's ability to maintain the 12.5p dividend.

GENERAL ACCIDENT: Milder weather and healthy growth in life profits should enable the group to post a favourable set of interim figures tomorrow. Pre-tax profit expectations range from £240 million to £260 million, with Credit Lyonnais Laing's David Hudson coming out towards the top of the range with £257 million. That compares with the outcome of £194 million last time. The lower level of weather related claims is in stark

contrast to the previous year. Life profits growth will have been boosted by the acquisition of Provident Mutual.

Meanwhile, General Accident is likely to be largely unaffected by the strong pound. It has a low exposure to Europe and the bulk of its non-UK business is dollar denominated. The payout is expected to grow from 11.4p to 12.6p.

SMITH & NEPHEW: A decline in sales, profits, margins and earnings is on the cards when the group unveils interim figures on Tuesday. Brokers will be looking for signs of a recovery in its fortunes. Pre-tax profits are expected to drop from £90.8 million to between £75 million and £82 million, with earnings also declining by around 14 per cent to 4.8p a share.

Sales are expected to decline by 4 per cent to £520 million after the effects of currency translations and this, combined with price deflation, should also have denting operating margins from 17.5 per cent to 16.1 per cent.

Now all hopes are pinned on the launch of Dermagraft, the artificial skin graft process, next year. But brokers say that without a recovery in its main markets, any useful contribution from Dermagraft cannot be sustained. Despite the group's problems, the market is still looking for an increase in the interim dividend from 2.3p to 2.4p.

HANSON: The group is a pale shadow of its former self, after the various denigrations, and is now a focused building materials business. Third-quarter figures, until the end of June, will be announced on Thursday, but the emphasis will be on the first six months. The figures are likely to prove hard to interpret as there will be no comparisons. A pre-tax profit of around £100 million, producing earnings of 13p, is expected. The payout has been pencilled in at 4p.

ARC, the aggregates company, will have enjoyed better trading conditions and this should offset lower coated stone volumes. London Brick continues to hold 40 per cent of the market, but high stock levels mean it has been unable to force through price rises. Cornerstone in the US is likely to have enjoyed a solid performance, producing a like-for-like profit increase in the region of 5 per cent.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Currency fallout

Financial markets on both sides of the Atlantic will be dominated in the early part of the week by the sudden seeming reversal of speculative currency trends. On Friday, this undermined dollar securities. So today's auction of short-term US bills will be watched more closely than usual. The dollar's sudden retreat, if sustained, will take pressure off the Bundesbank, whose chief economist has voiced worries over rising inflation and the mark. Even so, eyes will be on German retail and wholesale price data due this week. The median market forecast puts the cost of living up 0.5 per cent, raising annual inflation from 1.7 to 1.9 per cent.

In the UK, the statistical emphasis is also on inflation, but the sting appears to have been taken out of the Bank of England's *Inflation Report*, to be published during Wednesday, by the statement that the new 7 per cent base rate is reckoned enough to keep inflation on target.

On Monday, factory gate price data should continue to show the benefits of a strong pound. On the median of forecasts compiled by AFX, input prices fell a further 0.5 per cent in July, for an annual drop of 8.8 per cent. But predictions vary widely, from plus 0.7 per cent to minus 1.5 per cent. Output prices were stable in July, according to the median forecast, making 1.2 per cent inflation over 12 months, though HSBC looks for a 0.5 per cent rise.

The headline retail price index is expected to show annual inflation up from 2.9 to 3.2 per cent on earlier mortgage rises, despite a 0.1 per cent fall in July. Even the lowest forecast is for 3 per cent inflation. Without mortgages, the targeted RPIX measure is expected to be down 0.3 per cent but annual inflation still up from 2.7 to 2.9 per cent. Excluding taxes, underlying RPIY inflation is forecast to be up one notch to 2.3 per cent.

Labour market data, due on Wednesday, are projected to show another 30,000 fall in unemployment. Growth in average earnings is thought to have stayed at an annual 4 per cent in June but inflation of unit labour costs is reckoned to be up, perhaps from 2.4 to 2.7 per cent.

GRAHAM SEARJEANT

The Observer: Bay: Unilever. The Sunday Times: Bay: Celtic, Oriental Restaurant Group, Rolls-Royce. The Sunday Telegraph: Bay: Tinsley Robor, Firth Rixson, Hazlewood Foods. The Mail on Sunday: Bay: Whitbread. Self: NatWest. The Independent on Sunday: Bay: Field Group. The Express on Sunday: Bay: Northern Leisure, Spixar-Sarco, Black Arrow.

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Vickers' sale plan fuels talk of merger

VICKERS, the engineering group, will streamline its business over the next few weeks by offloading its medical arm (Christine Buckley writes).

The company, which makes Rolls-Royce cars and Challenger tanks, is looking to tie up a series of deals after the recent sale of its S&W Medico

Teknik subsidiary. Vickers hopes to identify purchasers for the remaining businesses in time for its interim results next month.

To maximise the value of the division, Vickers is thought likely to sell the businesses individually. The operations up for sale include incubators, neurological

diagnostics and equipment distribution, and should fetch more than £90 million.

Anticipation that Vickers would sell the rest of its medical operations have fuelled hopes for a merger with British Aerospace. But both companies yesterday denied anything was on the table. A

link would make sense through combining Vickers' armoured tanks and cars to BAe's defence capabilities.

A potential buyer for medical operations has been identified by the company as Satalis Industries, which last week spent £136 million on Gracoby, the medical devices and monitoring company.

B&Q expands its presence in Far East

B&Q, the do-it-yourself market leader in Britain, is planning to open further branches in Taiwan as part of its drive into overseas markets (Sarah Cunningham writes).

The company, part of the Kingfisher retail conglomerate, has one branch in Taiwan and is opening two more this year. It has now agreed terms to open a fourth branch towards the end of next year and Jim Hodgkinson, chairman, says it could eventually open as many as 25 branches in the country.

The Taiwan operation is run as a 50-50 joint venture with a local supplier. Kingfisher's current investment in Taiwan is between £10 million and £12 million. The company is also looking at other Asian markets.

CHANGE ON WEEK

US dollar
1.5787 (-0.0580)
German mark
2.9249 (-0.1136)
Exchange index
101.3 (-4.0)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

FT 30 share
3216.3 (+124.1)
FTSE 100
5031.3 (+132.0)
New York Dow Jones
8031.22 (-162.82)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
19804.46 (-199.92)

WORD WATCH

Answers from page 37

VEASE

(c) A run before a jump. A rush or impetus. From the Old English *veasan* to rush. Chaucer, *The Knight's Tale*, 1386: "And ther out cam a rage, and such a vease, / That it made all the gate for to rese."

WEVET

(c) A cabweb in southwest dialect. From *weave* and *weft*. "Ye skyppe over the oven Orades of truth, and are entangled in the wevet of error."

WINDOLF

(a) Probably a refuse pit? East Anglian dialect. The second syllable is probably related to *deive*, *delf*. Compare the Suffolk *delf* a drain or ditch. "Andreas Longe de Pley footi regiam viam et inde fecit unum wyndolf ad nocumetum."

YOUF

(b) To bark, especially in a suppressed manner, is unlike a Jack Russell. Onomatopoeic and echoic, cf. *yaff*. "And Cerberus, though but just whelped, / Did stand and youf."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Nth7? Qnh7? (1 ... cxf5 2 Nxf6+ is devastating) 2 Rh5 winning the black queen.

Keep our opinions to yourself.

It's all very well to say share and share alike, but in all honesty wouldn't you prefer to enjoy of leisure your own copy of the Times Educational Supplement? The FE Focus section, in particular, really does deserve much more than a rushed flick through in the staffroom. So for opinions worth taking the time to listen to, buy your own copy, take it home and keep it to yourself.

FE FOCUS

Macho management fails to fly with BA staff

Troubled staff relations dog Bob Ayling, the chief executive, says Jon Ashworth

As temperatures soared last week, British Airways took delivery of its new "secret weapon" — a million pints of London Pride real ale.

Anthony Fuller, chairman of Fuller Smith Turner in Chiswick, west London, turned up with a couple of dray horses to deliver the first supplies. There was much back-slapping and bonhomie. A merry time was had by all.

Elsewhere, in baggage loading bays, behind check-in counters, and in the cabins of BA aircraft, many of BA's 60,000 employees are not having quite such a good time.

Talks between unions and management over BA's cost-saving proposals, rumble on, trailing the possibility of further strike action. Higher than average sickness levels have persisted since the strike, causing continuing disruption to flights.

At Heathrow, baggage equipment failures, combined with staff shortages and high volumes of transfer passengers, have left facilities under strain. Should the occasional BA baggage handler forget to load someone's suitcase, adding to the chaos, then who can blame them?

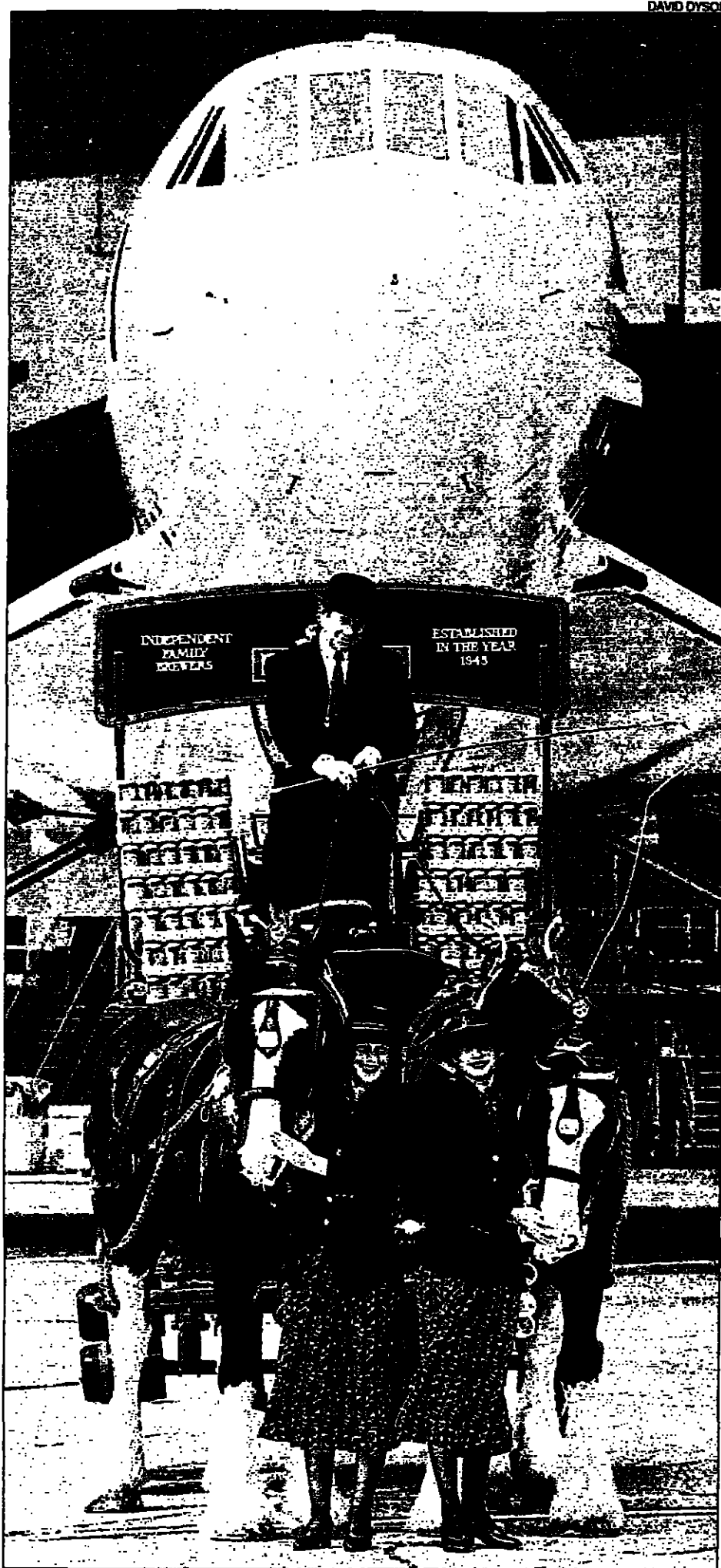
BA has yet to resolve its fundamental underlying problem — how to bridge the yawning chasm between a disillusioned workforce and a management that is seen as aloof, unsympathetic, and out of touch. Bob Ayling, the much maligned BA chief executive, has taken steps to remedy the situation, ditching Sir Tim Bell's Lowe Bell in favour of Alan Parker's Brunswick on the PR front and making — for him — vaguely sympathetic noises.

One of the problems Mr Ayling has — as seen by journalists, union officials and BA employees — is that his words come couched in the language of the management consultant. If employees are aggrieved, well then, that is to be expected at this stage of the game. The cost of industrial action, flagged at £125 million, but certain to rise, can be justified as necessary pain in the context of future cost savings.

Good textbook stuff, but not something that is likely to wash with the steward or stewardess dishing out meals at 33,000 feet in mid-Atlantic. In their jaundiced minds, this sort of language — dubbed *yukpeak* by BA insiders — reinforces the perception that they are numbers, not real people. Numbers can be erased with a line of Tipp-Ex. Numbers do not have families and mortgages.

Mr Ayling went into overdrive at the recent BA annual meeting at London's Barbican Centre when he told shareholders: "My vision is to lead a company where employees are inspired to provide excellent customer service, where everyone feels valued and respected, where employees are fairly rewarded, where they have smiles on their faces, and where they feel that British Airways is the only place to work." At this stage, that is exactly what it is — a vision.

Mr Ayling was at it again last week, explaining how BA's latest profits would assist in winning "the hearts and minds" of the workforce. He made some attempt to appear sympathetic, saying: "I'm the first to understand that people



New line: The first delivery of BA's latest secret weapon — London Pride real ale

find changes of the sort that we believe are necessary difficult." Fine sentiments, but somehow the words do not quite ring true.

Unquestionably, BA has a real need to reduce costs if it hopes to remain competitive. Margins are under relentless pressure; hence the rationale behind Mr Ayling's Business Efficiency Programme, aimed

at achieving annual cost savings of £1 billion by 2000. Mr Ayling believes he has to take a tough line with the unions, reasoning that any weakness now will prove his undoing.

Mr Ayling further believes that he is being used in a power struggle between the British Airline Stewards and Stewardesses Association (Bassa), and its breakaway

rival, Cabin Crew 89. From his viewpoint, BA staff are not inherently unhappy, but are being incited to rebellion by union firebrands. Cabin crew, pilots, baggage handlers — all have time on their hands in which to whip one another into a frenzy. All this goes some way towards explaining his macho management stance. But in adopting such

tactics, Mr Ayling may be creating more problems than he is solving. Textbooks work well enough in factories, but they are less attuned to the needs of a people business, such as an airline. People are involved at every stage, from check-in to boarding, to in-flight service. If they are aggrieved, the customer is the first to sense it. Throw in a few "accidentally" lost suitcases, and passengers seriously start considering switching to a more reliable rival.

Will Mr Ayling weather the storm? At BA's annual meeting, Sir Colin Marshall, the chairman, did his best to put the debate into perspective. Take the row over BA's multicoloured livery, introduced at a cost of £60 million. According to Sir Colin, opinions were equally divided when BA changed its previous colour scheme. As for staff cuts and cost savings, well, these things are never easy.

Sources close to the unions think further industrial action is unlikely. BA, severely shaken by last month's cabin crew strike, has no stomach for further confrontation. Seen the other way, the unions have achieved considerable publicity with their actions and will be reluctant to push their luck. BA has its own ideas about improving relations between management and staff — although none sounds like the panacea for universal happiness. For one, Mr Ayling is planning an internal BA television network with "quite a substantial degree of independence in terms of its reporting", in which staff will have an opportunity to express their views.

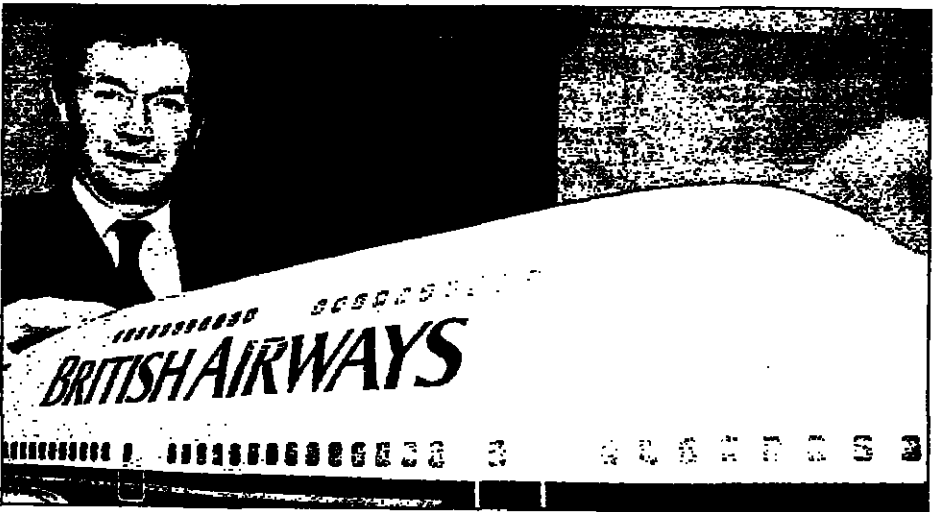
As Mr Ayling explained recently: "We don't want people being unnecessarily destructive, but there are a lot of people who want to say things, and things that managers want to say, that are difficult to communicate by the written word and difficult to communicate in small meetings. I think this will be a very good way of improving internal communications and will allow a lot of the anxieties that people quite understandably have, when you go through a period of change, to be vented and answered."

Among other initiatives, Mr Ayling is keen to expand the existing BA workers' council into a broadly based representative body, allowing for a regular exchange of ideas. There are also plans for a company-wide programme of development and motivation. Mr Ayling said: "We've had many of them in the past. I think it would be right to have another one when we've gone through this, so we can try to bring everyone back together again."

Perhaps Mr Ayling's biggest challenge for now is convincing BA's major shareholders that he is still the right man for the job. BA's shares have performed handsomely since privatisation in February 1987, showing a gain of about 500 per cent, but the big institutions, led by Mercury Asset Management with a 17 per cent stake, will be concerned about any perceived longer term threat.

Fund managers tend to close ranks around a company's board in times of strife, whatever their private views. While applauding Mr Ayling's uncompromising stance, they will have watched the recent share price aerobatics with alarm.

It is worth remembering that MAM is fronted by Carol Galley, the fund manager who decided the outcome of Granada's £3.9 billion bid for Forte. Sir Rocco Forte tried to charm her into submission and was cast into the wilderness. Get on the wrong side of Carol Galley and nothing will save Mr Ayling. Not even a million pints of London Pride.



Tough line: Bob Ayling reasons that showing any weakness now will prove his undoing

A wildlife crusade

In the Wild: Pandas with Debra Winger
ITV, 8.00pm

Accompanied by her ten-year-old son, Noah, Debra Winger travels to China to do her bit for the conservation of pandas. Unlike some other contributors to the celebrity wildlife series, Winger makes no attempt to play the Hollywood star. When she has to rough it, as inevitably happens during a 1,500-mile journey through inhospitable terrain, she mucks in with the least fuss. She also has to turn on the diplomacy when the trip is in danger of being scuppered by Chinese bureaucracy. Indeed she has to tread carefully all round in a country where animals come a poor second to human beings, and China's leading authority on pandas is having a difficult time campaigning for their protection. But the obstacles finally fall away and in a forest touched with snow, Winger and son get their dream photo opportunity.

Citizen's Arrest

Channel 4, 8.00pm

Joe Layburn, television's unofficial ombudsman, takes up the case of Betty Cotney who bought her council house from Barnsley Council unaware that it could be blown up by methane gas from disused mine workings. She thinks the council should have told her, particularly as its own minutes reveal that it knew of the hazard several years before. The gas threat has cut the value of the house by more than half, even if Mrs Cotney was able to sell it. Barnsley Council denies responsibility and says that it has acted responsibly throughout. Unless the programme is not telling us something, this seems an extraordinary statement. But, not for the first time, television exposure fails to produce a solution. Mrs Cotney ends up by going to a solicitor, which she could have done in the first place.

Short Stories: The Flying Scrapheap

Channel 4, 8.30pm

The slot for short documentaries by new filmmakers returns with a portrait of Shaun Kent, an Essex man of no settled abode who makes a precarious living buying and selling scrap. His proudest acquisition, which he acquired for just £1, is one of the least likely: In 1966 the Kowloon Bridge, a bulk carrier taller and broader than



Debra Winger meets a cub (ITV, 8pm)

Canary Wharf, sank off the coast of Ireland with a cargo of iron ore. For that modest outlay, Kent is the ship's owner. For years he has dreamed of raising the carrier, selling the contents and making himself rich. For somebody who lives on the margin it seems a barny idea. But Kent mixes optimism and obsessive determination in rich measure. He manages to buy and equip a salvage ship and by the end of Michael Clifford's enjoyable film you almost believe that it might happen.

All Mod Cons: The Pad

BBC2, 9.30pm

The lively history of home improvement reaches the 1960s, when a new generation inspired by iconoclasm and bulging wage packets overturned traditional ideas about furniture and decor. Thanks to their new-found financial independence, young people left home early and sought the freedom of bedsit land where their imaginations ran riot. Out went three-piece suits and tasteful wallpaper. In came almost anything, as long as it bore no resemblance to what had gone before. It was the decade that saw the emergence of Habitat and a new crop of interior designers eagerly profited by another innovation of the 1960s: the Sunday colour supplement. Ironically, the wacky chairs, the painted floorboards and the walls covered in silver paper now look as dated as the hippy culture to which many of these young people turned. Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

Round Britain Quiz

Radio 4 (FM), 12.25pm

I have a boundless admiration for the panelists who voluntarily climb on to the rack in this Spanish Inquisition of a game. "Your bewilderment is incomprehensible to me," says the chairman and chief inquisitor, Nick Clarke, to one of his perplexed contestants — or is that victims? He would never dare say such a cruel thing if he didn't mean it as a joke. My own bewilderment at Round Britain is genuine, and I suspect the years will be too when Clarke reads out this brainstormer from a listener: "In what avine environment did Tyler's offspring with a pain in the neck apparently discuss the structure of a product of Nimes?" Far easier is: "What connects Handel with a haircut?"

RADIO 1

7.00am Mark Radcliffe and Boy Lard 8.00am Mark Goodier 11.30am Radio 1 Roadshow, Live in Southsea 12.30pm Newsweek 12.45am White 1.15am The 12.30am News 1.30am The 1.30am Evening Session with Steve Lamacq 2.30am Live Music Update 2.40am Andy Kershaw 10.30am Mary Ann Hobbs 1.00am Chris Sugrue 4.00am Chris Moyles

RADIO 2

6.00am Alex Lester 7.30am Sarah Kennedy 9.30am Ken Bruce 11.30am Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Thewer 3.00pm Ed Stewart 4.00pm John Durn 5.00pm Humphrey Lyttelton 6.00pm Malcolm Laycock with Diana Sand 7.00pm Big Band Special 8.30pm Live over Britain 10.30pm Richard Allinson 12.05am Steve Medden 3.00am Adrian Pinfield

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00am Breakfast Programme 8.00am The Magdala 12.00am Midday with Mair 2.00pm Roscoe on Five 4.00pm John Inverdale Nationwide 7.00pm News Extra 7.30pm Gloria Night 8.00pm The Monday Match: Arsenal v Coventry, Coventry from Highway of the Premiership clash 10.00pm 5 Live at the Fringe, Highlights of the Edinburgh Festival 11.00pm News Extra 12.00am After Hours 2.00am Up All Night with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

5.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy Watt 7.00am Paul Rots 9.00am Scott Chisholm 12.00am Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00pm Peter Dinkley 7.00am Anna Rastum 10.00am James White 1.00am Mike Dickinson

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. News on the hour. 6.00am Newsweek 6.30am Europe Today 7.15am World Athletics Championships 7.30am Europe 8.15am The 8.15am News 8.30am The 8.30am News 8.45am The 8.45am News 9.15am The 9.15am News 9.30am The 9.30am News 9.45am The 9.45am News 10.15am The 10.15am News 10.30am The 10.30am News 10.45am The 10.45am News 11.15am The 11.15am News 11.30am The 11.30am News 11.45am The 11.45am News 12.15am The 12.15am News 12.30am The 12.30am News 12.45am The 12.45am News 1.15am The 1.15am News 1.30am The 1.30am News 1.45am The 1.45am News 2.15am The 2.15am News 2.30am The 2.30am News 2.45am The 2.45am News 3.15am The 3.15am News 3.30am The 3.30am News 3.45am The 3.45am News 4.15am The 4.15am News 4.30am The 4.30am News 4.45am The 4.45am News 5.15am The 5.15am News 5.30am The 5.30am News 5.45am The 5.45am News 6.15am The 6.15am News 6.30am The 6.30am News 6.45am The 6.45am News 7.15am The 7.15am News 7.30am The 7.30am News 7.45am The 7.45am News 8.15am The 8.15am News 8.30am The 8.30am News 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Too many voices to make a coherent case

If you could keep your head while all around last night's *Omnibus* (BBC1) was getting under way... well, you're a better man than I am, Gunga Din. Rarely has total confusion set in quite so quickly.

We began simply enough with a strangely handsome man driving through Sussex listening to a radio programme about Kipling. As the title of Nadia Haggas's film was *A Film About Rudyard Kipling*, this seemed a reasonable device. So far, so good.

Then the strangely handsome man, who had not yet been introduced, started to add his own thoughts about Kipling — you could tell they were thoughts because his lips didn't move while he said them. It was just about coping with two disembodied voices (one — the radio, two — the handsome man's thoughts) when a third arrived for the first time.

This voice, which may have

harboured aspirations to become the narrator, quoted Forster and Eliot in quick succession. Then we got to Bauman's, Kipling's country seat, and a fourth voice started reading his letters. Then a fifth voice started talking through the Internet. And then, and then...

And then I woke up. And it was still going on. By now, at least, the strangely handsome man had introduced himself. He was Mace Richards, an actor who knew little about Kipling but, he said, he'd cheer himself up. He was regularly out of work, separated and didn't see enough of his children. So probably knew it backwards by now.

Modestly, Richards had described himself as "not in the John Gielgud class" but, frankly, even Sir John would have struggled with this. Richards was effectively playing himself (ie, not acting) recreating for the first time a voyage of personal and literary

discovery that I presume we were being asked to believe really had happened. "Clever, but was it art?" as a passing devil might have whooped.

Though I still wasn't convinced it was even clever, things did look up a bit when we got to John Clegg's one man Kipling show. "Oh look, it's Mr. Lardy-da Gunner Graham from *It Ain't Half Hot, Mum*." I shouted, my enthusiasm temporarily restored. But I had forgotten this was *Omnibus*, a serious arts programme where such low-brow interjections are not encouraged. It was on with the Kipling, until my attention wandered again. "Goodness, she's pretty."

Pretty and apparently crucial to the plot. This was Liz, who was not just pretty but a Kipling scholar to boot, boot, boot. Only she wasn't. She was Sarah Patterson, an actress who, for reasons that were

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

never explained, was playing the part of Liz. So to recap (for dearly beloveds who may have lost the plot) we had Richards, an actor who was not acting, and Liz, the Kipling scholar who was not a Kipling scholar. Together, they were searching for *Mother Maturin* — a Kipling novel which the film took an inordinate time to admit had never been published and the manuscript of which had

mysteriously vanished. The hunt was on.

But again my attention wandered. You see, by the time our intrepid duo got to Ed Maggs, purveyor of old manuscripts, they were holding hands. Never mind whether Kipling had or had not had a relationship with a low-caste Indian teenager, this was far more interesting. And just as puzzling. They had already done a deal of gazing soulfully into each other's eyes, but I'd put this down to the fact that they were both actors. Something more was going on. Was this a faithful recreation of a literary liaison between Mace and Liz or a spot of actorly improvisation by Mace and Sarah? "Let's just try it and see how it feels?" We never found out, just as we never found out about *Mother Maturin*, although Richards, unlike Kipling, did provide a wistful hint. "I never saw her again, she vanished from my life." Goodness.

you don't think it was all an allegory, do you?

From the mystery of *Mother Maturin*, it was a short, thankfully conventional step to *Mother India*, as *The Dynasty* (BBC2, Saturday) reached Indira Gandhi. What a treat this proved, a film that started at the beginning and continued through until... not quite the end. That's next week.

A congenial cast of colleagues, relatives and friends (but possibly not enough critics) had been assembled to guide us through the early brilliant years of her administration (when she profitably played the Americans off against the Soviets) to the later years when her reputation became tarnished by allegations of corruption and nepotism and eventually by electoral defeat. It was fascinating stuff, as so much of the veritable sub-continent of programming scheduled to mark the 50th anni-

versary of independence has proved. I could have listened for a lot longer to Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw, the man who could have led a coup against her but ended up leading the war against West Pakistan on her behalf.

If *The Dynasty* was one sort of time-warped television, *Working Out* (Channel 5) was quite another. It was as though the past ten years hadn't happened. There we were in a London gym, with all these heavily perspiring executives types apparently auditioning for a part in a new series of *Capital City*. It was a "dog eat dog" world, where you were "only as good as your last deal". Did they mean 1997? Apparently they did.

Aileen McCracken's film perhaps lacked the humour and insight to make it unmissable but in terms of capturing a *Zeitgeist* we all thought had gone it was bang on. I mean, even the head chef had a history of heart palpitations.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (42633)
7.00am Breakfast News (T) (66402)
9.00am Breakfast News Extra (T) (533324)
9.20am Ready, Steady, Cook (T) (5334614)
9.50am Esther (T) (6220701)
10.20am The Roadshow Collection (5297072)
10.45am News (T) (7779275)
10.50am Crick: Fifth Test — England v Australia. The final morning's play. Continues on BBC2 (6878121). NB: If the Test finishes early, there will be substitute programming.

12.35pm Neighbours (T) (1180901)
1.00pm News (T) and weather (76769)
1.30pm Regional News (6052506)
1.40pm Crick: Fifth Test — England v Australia. Coverage of the final afternoon in Nottingham (6818988)
4.00pm Poppye (215895) 4.10pm Benanman (2582169) 4.15pm Little Mouse on the Prairie (9339939) 4.35pm Fun the Risk (2846576)
5.00pm Newsround. A first of the week's reports marking India's 50th anniversary of independence from British rule (T) (2767237)
5.10pm Eldor (T) (3801850)
5.35pm Neighbours (T) (546817)
6.00pm News (T) and weather (836)
6.30pm Regional News (830)
7.00pm Nightmares of Nature. Australian spiders, maggots with a taste for human flesh, killer South American caterpillars, and honey bees (T) (2140)
7.30pm Mysterium. Specialised subjects are the Borgia, the stories of H.P. Lovecraft, the life and books of Arthur Ransome and Frances Howard, Countess of Somerset (T) (382)
8.00pm EastEnders. Ted and Sarah are preparing to leave; Ricky realises that his image needs attention. Grant and Annie are busy making inquiries about each other (T) (8188)
8.30pm Tiger Bay. John decides to teach Roy a lesson by chatting up Warwick at the Trader (T) (7695)
9.00pm News (T) and weather (8237)
9.30pm French and Saunders. Actress and singer Patsy Kensit join Dawn and Jennifer (T) (97411)
10.00pm Preston Front. Spook tries to shake a listless, overweight student out of his lethargy (T) (824527)
10.40pm Match of the Eighties. Danny Baker recalls football headline-makers of the 1983-84 season (T) (150814)
11.20pm Classic Albums. All the original musicians on the landmark 1970 album *Scorpions: The World's Greatest Rock Band*. Wordsworth's *Wendlandt* studio in Los Angeles to reminisce (T) (917879)
12.25pm Crick: Fifth Test — England v Australia. Richie Benaud presents highlights of the fifth and final day's play at Trent Bridge, unless the Test finishes early (5250183)
1.05pm Night — KIRI (1984) with: Federico. Fact-based drama about a teenager driven to drastic measures to protect his sister and mother from the assaults of his violent, tyrannical father. Directed by John Erman (T) (1026767)
2.35pm Weather (7790183)

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BBC2

6.00am Q & A: Open Advice (464071) 6.25pm News. Stories (5291968) 6.50pm Children and New Technology (T) (9325430)
7.15pm See Hear Breakfast News (T and signing) (175411)
7.30pm Teletubbies (T) (4576633) 7.55pm Postman Pat (T) (1764121) 8.10pm Raccoons (T) (1670888) 8.35pm To Me, to You (T) (5737904) 9.05pm Spiderman (T) (7174430) 9.35pm Smart (T) (6218098) 10.00pm Smurfs Adventures (T) (7284546) 10.25pm The Brollys (T) (4589430) 10.45pm Teletubbies (T) (407898)
11.15pm The Marx Brothers Go West (1940) Comedy with the Marx Brothers. Directed by Edward Buzzell (9330825)
12.35pm Crick: Fifth Test — England v Australia. See BBC1, 10.50am (T) (1187633)
1.00pm Men and Mice (T) (93027430) 1.15pm Clon Christian Tastes Royal Thailand (10772833) 1.40pm Blockbusters (98991362) 2.05pm The Natural World Classics (T) (8929904) 3.00pm News (T) (2574985) 3.05pm Car Squad (T) (4619904) 3.35pm News (T) (7182053)
4.00pm Crick: Fifth Test — England v Australia. Live coverage through to the close of play. See BBC1 (72374168)
6.25pm Man Without a Star (1954) with: Kirk Douglas, Jeanne Crain and Clair Trevor. A veteran cowboy comes to the aid of a rancher harassed by an aggressive cattle baron. Directed by King Vidor (T) (3922585)
7.50pm Who Dare Dare Free climbing expert Lynn Hill scales California's Capitol, while mountain runner Valerio Bertoglio runs up and down the awesome slopes of the Matterhorn (T) (317017)
8.05pm A Migrant's Heart. Theatre director Valerio Bertoglio travels to India to find a place he can call home (T) (591508)
8.30pm The Travel Show. Fi Glover and Simon Calder visit Bangkok, Thailand; Jiles Morris in northern Spain's Picos Mountains; and a Swedish island adventure (5237)
9.00pm Changing Rooms. A vibrant and bold bedroom and a rustic kitchen, Mexican-style (T) (1879)
9.30pm All Mod Cons. The revolution in home furnishings in the '1980s featuring the birth of the modular sofa, inflatable furniture and the wickered (T) (85053)
10.00pm Sykes Classic comedy (T) (T) (89904) WALES: How Buildings Learn
10.30pm Newsnight (T) (884169) 11.15pm Edinburgh Nights (829492) 12.00pm Weather (439347) 12.05pm News (T) (8395034)
12.30pm Learning Zone: The Rinsuccell Chapel, Florence 1.00pm The Gentle Sex? 1.30pm Pictures and Paintings 2.00pm Hearing Chance. Collections 1.40pm Languages 5.30pm RCN Nursing Update

6.00am GMTV (7714459)
9.25pm Win, Lose or Draw (T) (5328053)
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5.10pm Highway to Heaven (1/2) (2613072)
5.40pm News (T) and weather (789859)
6.00pm Home and Away (T) (523492)
6.25pm HTV Weather (546)
6.30pm HTV Tonight (T) (6854)
6.55pm HTV Crimestoppers (487411)
7.00pm World of Fortune Game show hosted by Bradley Walsh (T) (4508)
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10.00pm News (T) and weather (78430)
10.30pm Regional News (T) (594237)
10.40pm The Time Traveller. Archaeologist Mick Ardun investigates the story of the stone in the Aveybury Circle in Wiltshire (154430)
11.15pm Limited Edition (202430)
11.45pm Tropical Heat (T) (575169)
12.40pm Football Extra. First in new series of football highlights from the weekend's Nationwide League fixtures (95947)
1.40pm Curiosity Kills (1990) with: Ray Dawn Chong, Courtney Cox, C. Thomas Howell. A struggling artist discovers a murder plot following the apparent suicide of the occupant of a neighbouring flat. Directed by Colin Bucksey (5349473)
3.10pm Rockman (T) (6053767) 4.05pm God's Gift (T) (7040299) 5.00pm Coronation Street (T) (58116) 5.30pm News (7947)
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ROGER BOOTLE 41

Prices, what prices?
The great
inflation mystery

BUSINESS

TAIL OF WOE 42

BA still buffeted
by industrial
turbulence



BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

MONDAY AUGUST 11 1997

Utilities chiefs to do battle at vital meeting

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY
INDUSTRIAL
CORRESPONDENT

UNITED UTILITIES will tomorrow hold emergency talks to try to repair bitter boardroom divisions and stem the growing crisis of confidence in the City.

The hastily convened board meeting will be a showdown between Sir Desmond Pitcher, the executive chairman who many institutions want squeezed out, and Sir Peter Middleton, the senior non-executive director who is also BZW chairman.

Sir Peter is in the middle of a series of talks with leading shareholders who were angered by the dismissal last month of Brian Staples, United's chief executive.

He is anxious to assuage the concerns of shareholders but has denied reports that he is keen to take on the role of chairman.

The meeting tomorrow is expected to try to shape an appeasement package — although this may fall short of the resignation of Sir Desmond that many leading shareholders are demanding.

Opposition to the chairman is likely to manifest itself in the review of the business that is due to be completed in October. Sir Peter is expected to promise leading shareholders that the review will have teeth.

It is likely to outline a succession plan that will almost certainly require Sir Desmond, 62, to leave before his intended retirement in 2000. This is the date by which Derek Green, the new chief executive, has said he wants to leave the company.

United is expected to emphasise to institutional investors the need for Sir Desmond to steer the company through the crucial opening of the electricity market to competition.



Sir Peter Bonfield, right, with MCI president Gerry Taylor as Robert Brace, of BT, looks on after the deal was announced last November

Pressure mounts for BT to call off MCI merger

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BT shareholders are demanding that the company seeks a cut of up to 15 per cent in the £12 billion it is offering to acquire MCI, the US telecoms group that is suffering heavy losses breaking into local markets.

Some investors fear that even such a reduction, which would offer a saving of perhaps £1.8 billion, would not be enough to compensate for the risks of the controversial merger. Leading investors, said to include Prudential, Standard Life and PDM, want BT to walk away from the MCI deal. Other institutions, such as Perpetual and Henderson, have also spoken out against going ahead.

Investors have been pressing their concerns on BT since a profit warning from MCI last month stunned stock markets on both sides of the Atlantic and helped to wipe billions from the valuations of both companies. MCI said the difficulties of breaking into local telephone markets meant that it will lose \$1.6 billion (£1 billion) on this business by the end of next year.

The upset has raised doubts about the global strategy that underpins BT's logic for the deal. Some critics say that the benefits claimed for the merger ignore the changing nature of competition within the telecoms industry, and the threat from Internet telephony. Others believe that BT has been outmanoeuvred by MCI's management, who have a tough reputation.

An industry source said that most shareholders "believe that the strategy still holds good but they want the price renegotiated". The pressure for a price cut could cause the deal to collapse, with the scope to renegotiate uncertain. BT has frustrated shareholders by consistently refusing to say

whether or not it has the legal option to rework the price. MCI has also refused to shed light on the contractual arrangements.

Even if there is a facility to renegotiate, a cut of 15 per cent is likely to prove inflammatory to MCI. US investors in MCI have been given strong signals

that the deal will go ahead as planned.

BT, whose shares will go ex-dividend today, triggering a price fall, is conducting a review of MCI's business. The report is due by the end of the month. Sir Peter Bonfield, chief executive, returned last week from another trip to MCI's Washington headquarters to oversee the review.

BT has annoyed investors with the information vacuum that surrounds the troubled merger. The company has held no talks with investors ahead of the completion of the review, although it has taken soundings of their opinions. At the company's first quarter results Sir Peter admitted that some investors had told BT that they had lost confidence with the management.

The company said yesterday that investors would be fully briefed following the completion of the report.

Institutional investors who are lobbying for BT to abandon the deal are thought to be growing. The Prudential and PDM are said to have urged BT to ditch the deal.

Meanwhile, some stockbrokers have become increasingly bullish on the deal. Dresner Kleinwort Benson is one of a handful of brokers that has said that BT would be more profitable if it stayed independent.

James Dodd, its analyst, has warned MCI's core long distance business risks "a high chance of going into terminal decline" because of future competition.

BT could face penalties of more than US\$400 million if it pulls out of the merger.

Virgin blames weather and old trains for late arrivals

By FRASER NELSON

VIRGIN TRAINS, the transport division of Richard Branson's empire, has the poorest punctuality record of any railway operator in the UK, according to figures from the rail regulator.

The company, which operates some 2,300 miles of railway through CrossCountry and West Coast Trains, has four of the seven least-punctual privatised services.

Figures for April, May and June — the first to take in a completely privatised system — name Virgin's West Coast Scottish service as the most prone to delays out of the 64 privatised networks. One in every four trains on the franchise runs more than ten minutes late, according to data from the Office of Passenger Rail Franchising (Opfr).

Virgin's North West service is the second worst, with an average of one in six trains delayed. Virgin CrossCountry comes close behind, with 11 per cent of its trains late, while 10 per cent of the trains on its West Midlands line kept passengers waiting.

A spokesman for Virgin said that the company was well aware of its shortfalls, and blamed them on the weather and the outdated infrastructure it inherited from British Rail. He said: "The problem lies with our worn out interior trains that are getting towards the end of their useful lives. We aim to replace the train fleet completely, but clearly we can't help down to Halfords and buy some new ones."

"As it stands, we have very worn trains on old infrastructure and this will inevitably cause delays. But when we replace it, it will be the showpiece of the world."

In the meantime, he added, the services would be slow to improve. Under the franchise agreement, Virgin is guaranteed a £92 million subsidy this year.

Opfr's figures show privatisation has so far failed to make trains run on time. In spite of the privatisation having absorbed twice the level of public funds given

under nationalisation. Of the 64 networks, 33 delivered a worse standard of service than under nationalisation. Some £443 million was given out in subsidy over the period, with a total of £1.86 billion expected in the whole year, Opfr said that even by the end of the current franchise lifespan in 2003, the subsidy will be £927 million — still more than British Rail received before the recession.

Scottish Highland service was named the most punctual in the country, with the number of late trains halving since it was taken over by National Express four months ago.

Opfr's data also show that very few passengers have been able to make a claim under the Citizens' Charter.

This week in THE TIMES

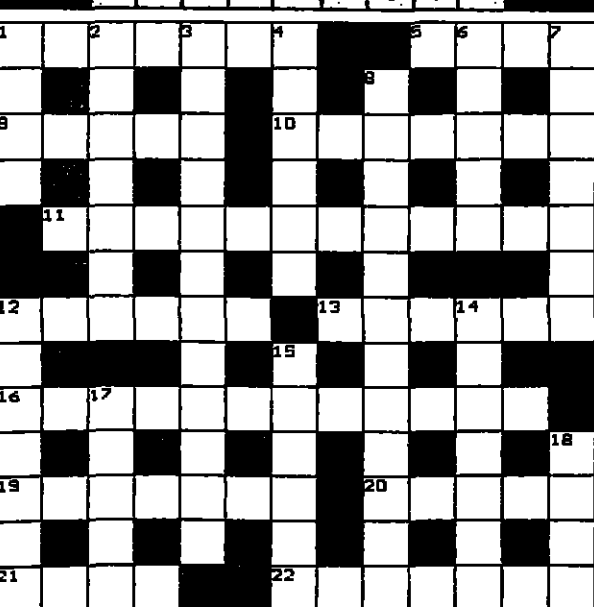
Tomorrow Merseyside's champion, Sir Desmond Pitcher, is on the ropes — can he recover?

Wednesday The Keswicks prepare to fight Li Ka-shing for Jardine Matheson

Thursday Formidable females: how top US women help one another

Friday Anatole Kaletsky on the latest from the economic battlefield

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1169

ACROSS

- 1 Family (7)
- 5 Instrumental dinner signal (4)
- 9 Freight car (5)
- 10 It, dumplings (7)
- 11 Inadequate action (4,8)
- 12 One fully enlightened (6)
- 13 Short and sturdy (6)
- 16 Peerless (12)
- 19 Fishing boat (7)
- 20 Ladies dancing day of Christmas (5)
- 21 Slope: aircraft access (4)
- 22 Child newly walking (7)

DOWN

- 1 Antipodean bird: type of fruit (4)
- 2 Mean person (7)
- 3 Ordinary (3-2-3-4)
- 4 Sixty minutes: a stage (6)
- 6 Film prizes — Wilde (5)
- 7 Contradict (7)
- 8 (Esp. pol) taught to be clean indoors (5-7)
- 12 Little skin bubble (7)
- 14 Regiment commander (7)
- 15 Miserable attic room (6)
- 17 Wide gulf (5)
- 18 Singer: a fish (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1168

ACROSS: 1 Sack 3 Trusting 9 Curve 10 Faraday 11 Aquinas 12 Tuft 14 Inside 16 Rhythm 18 Lamp 19 Integer 22 Kick off 23 Cabal 24 Wiscare 25 Beta

DOWN: 1 Sorcerer 2 Circumstances 4 Refuse 5 Scratch 6 Indefatigable 7 Goya 8 Bean 13 Umbrella 15 Diploma 17 Pillar 20 Tuft 21 Skew

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